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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1881).

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1919.

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SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(By courtesy of the "South China Morning Post.")

CUSTOMS DEMANDS GRANTED.

Shanghai, March 25.
Sir F. Aglen has granted practically all the demands of the outdoor Customs staff, including raised remuneration and better leave conditions.

ROUNDING UP THE GERMANS

Shanghai, March 25.
All the local Germans are reporting at Nantao camp without resistance.

SHANGHAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Shanghai, March 25.
The General Chamber of Commerce is meeting for the first time since the war.

DAY BY DAY.

The Pacific Mail Company's s.s. Venezuela is expected to arrive to-morrow afternoon, between two and three o'clock.

The French Ambassador at Tokyo and Madame Huguette, after two days in Canton, left the city yesterday. A party of distinguished Frenchmen has just visited Canton from Hongkong. The party consisted of Mousa, and Madame R. E. M. E. Huguette, French Ambassador at Tokyo, and their three daughters, and staff, Doctor Gaudet and Captain Guenean.

Mr. M. K. Lo this morning appeared before Mr. R. E. Lindell in the remand case of a Chinese who was charged with being in possession of a rifle and pistol with ammunition. The Chinese was arrested on the Hau Tak wharf, and Mr. Lo, defending, said the arms, which were found by the Police in a box, belonged to a friend who travelled from Australia by the same ship with the accused but who died in Manila. A fine of \$300 was imposed.

An elderly Chinese and a boy who had been to America were yesterday arrested in the Colony for having ammunition. The former, who was arrested on the s.s. Sui Tai, was this morning fined \$10 by the Magistrate. In the case of the boy, who made a remarkable statement to the effect that his long stay in America had led to his forgetting his own language, a fine of \$15 was inflicted.

A Chinese gentleman was sitting in his parlour on the second floor of No. 2 Western Street, yesterday, when he heard somebody tip-toeing past his door in the direction of the kitchen. He kept a watch and later saw a man emerging from the kitchen with a battered cooking pan in one hand and a cover in the other. When the thief was going down the stairs, the watcher sprang his surprise—he jumped from his hiding place and seized hold of the thief. The latter's shock was great, and this morning, the coup-de-grace was dealt him by the Magistrate who sent him to prison for one month.

A disreputable-looking Chinese was in the early hours of this morning found by a constable wandering with several other suspicious-looking characters. The constable searched him, and in his pocket a chisel, evidently intended for use in a burglarious enterprise, was found. Brought before the Magistrate this morning,

HONGKONG'S HOUSING QUESTION.

1.—Present Problems and Future Prospects.

(Special to the "Telegraph.")

"And one couple were glad to accept a shakedown on a verandah," recorded your contemporary, the South China Morning Post, the other day, in re "Crowded Hongkong." The word "glad" was accurately applied. The couple referred to were more than grateful to the kind-hearted proprietress of the hotel for the resource which she displayed in accommodating them in an already full-up establishment. That same night, in that same hotel, seven men slept in one room. They also were glad of the privilege. At evening time there were still many people wearily doing the hopeless round of the hotels and boarding-houses seeking shelter for the night. How they finally fared, one does not know. What one does know is that such a thing ought not to be. Yet it happens many times a month in Hongkong; in fact, every time a passenger steamer of any importance arrives.

Few people come here just now for the fun of the thing. Those who do come have a right to expect a bed and their meals in reasonable comfort and at less than profiteering charges. Either they are here on their lawful occasions as businessmen, or they are compelled to "stay over" for a few days awaiting steamers (and leaving useful sums of money in the hands of the various local retail houses). In either case, they are entitled to a well-earned and a measure of civic hospitality, in the general sense of the adjective civic, yet they arrive, mostly strangers, knowing that they have grievous difficulties to face. They land to find their fears realised, and that their only hope is the caprice of chance or an individual act of kindness—the managements of the hotels have no wish to have people camping on their verandahs and in their corridors, even for the financial return accruing therefrom. Nor is the Sailors' Home or any like institution keen on a general boarding-house business. It is all too upsetting and inconvenient. And yet people cannot be left to walk the streets all night, nor to seek the fresh-air cure on Blake Pier.

Now who are they that crowd our visitors to the Colony from the hotels, which are the proper asylum for visitors? Well, partly other visitors, and partly residents. And why residents? There is the root of the whole matter. It all leads back to the purely domestic question of housing—or the lack of it? It is a question that has consumed reservoirs of ink and parched innumerable throats, yet all the excitement has availed nothing. No practical step has yet been taken in Hongkong to cope with an ever-growing problem. All that the Government has done has been to refuse to appoint a Commission of Inquiry. Not too proud a record in such a vital matter, the Government will agree, in its wakeful moments (if any).

Of course, there is an "obvious" retort to all who use their commonsense and have the courage and public spirit to give utterance—forceful or persuasive, according to temperament—to that which commonsense so plainly urges.

"Patience!" says Circumlocution, alias Procrastination, alias No Wastefulness. "These conditions are absolutely abnormal. A little while and all will be well. Things will right themselves automatically. Please leave me in peace. Mondays I am still week-ending and tired. Tuesdays and Wednesdays I am reluctant. Thursdays I simply can't. Fridays I am tired again. Saturdays—well, I ask you!"

One must endeavour, with whatever non-success, to demonstrate to the egregious creature of the foregoing aliases that the times are not a little bit abnormal. They are aggressively—and pro-

gressively—normal. Or perhaps it would be more correct to say that in August 1914 that always mysterious thing, normality, and its more mysterious foil abnormality, became obsolete. In the present year of grace and social upheaval, 1919 A.D., nothing is normal, and nothing is abnormal. What the "obvious retort" is intended to convey is that the present enormous demand for hotel and house accommodation in Hongkong will die away within a period (unspecified), that there will be a bewildering choice of villas and terrace-houses and flats for the home-hunter, and that the hotels and boarding houses will be driven to advertising and competition for guests. There are many apparently sane people who seriously say these things. They are seized with a very grave delusion. It is as clear as can be that the future will see a largely enhanced and not diminished strain on hotel and housing accommodation in the Colony. There are presently required three or four more good-sized hotels and hundreds of new houses.

Let the matter be subjected to analysis. Considering first the resident population, what are the prospects? The native and labouring communities are an annually increasing mass, and not even a Government can deny that the provision of cheap and sanitary housing should keep pace with the increase, which, equally undeniably, it does not. Result: Serious overcrowding of existing houses, and all that entails (high death rates, the indecencies and discomforts of such congestion, etc., etc.) Then there are the educated and business classes, including Europeans. They are at the head-bide of their numbers at the moment. During the war hundreds of men have left the Colony to join the colours, and fight for Hongkong (amongst other things). Many of them will shortly return to find that the Colony for which they have fought can scarcely contrive to afford them a roof. Some, alas, will be taken by others. A "business boom" is not only inevitable—the world needs and must have it, in its gigantic effort to shake off the burden of its four years' folly—or misfortune. One has heard it said that the big firms have discovered, owing to the war, that they can work their men harder without killing them, and thus manage with smaller staffs and salary accounts. The likelihood rather is that the firms will joyfully augment their staffs well beyond pre-war dimensions to cope with the flood of business which, with very good reason, they anticipate.

There is another important factor. A greater proportion than in the past of the men returning or coming freshly to the Colony will be married. That is already apparent, and it is a very gratifying thing, for it will help to make the life of the Colony more wholesome than in some aspects it has been. Yet it must be remembered that a house which would suffice for four men as a "mess" or "snuggery" will accommodate only one married couple. But the bachelors can afford higher rents, and will get the houses. What is to become of the married folk? Hotels are not only very expensive; they are not the proper places for residents. It is highly desirable, for the general good of the Colony, to develop home life as much as possible, and home life is not possible in a hotel, nor in a boarding-house, which is cheaper than a hotel.

The cost of living here, as at home, has risen to a greater extent than have salaries since 1914. Consequently the married man has a less margin than ever to work upon. This demand for good but cheap houses is plenty—along, let it be said, with Friday.

FIRE AT KOWLOON CITY.

Serious damage was caused by a fire at Kowloon City this morning, a large match shed used for storing various goods in connection with the reclamation of land in that locality being entirely razed to the ground. Though there are some doubts as to the origin of the outbreak, it is surmised it was due to a spark from the engine used on the temporary railway. Apparently this ignited the dry match shed, and in 15 minutes the whole was burnt out, despite all efforts made to save it. A strong wind did much to help the fire.

A rough estimate places the damage suffered at \$1,500.

cheaper commodities, whether food, clothing or general; the day will yet come when there will be official control of the prices of hats and tennis rackets, to prevent the doubling and trebling of cost prices "to meet freight and establishment charges." But that is an aside.

To wind up the review of the possibilities relating to the resident population, a little relief is afforded at present by the fact of so many people going on leave—nearly everyone is "due" for leave, and as many as can by any possibility get away are going—nor "standing on the order" of it. It is almost a stampede. That again reduces, by howsoever small an amount, the numbers now actually huddling under Hongkong roofs.

The garrison may be called part of the permanent or of the floating population of the Colony. It is no secret that certain quarters belonging to the military are now tenanted—on sufferance—by civilians. These civilians will necessarily have to find other homes within a year or so; and not only that, but rumour is busy with statements as to the size of the future garrison here. For a bigger garrison, of course, more barracks would be provided. But apart from the mere military personnel a garrison makes a certain direct, as well as an appreciably indirect, demand on civil resources.

Now as the "birds of passage" which are, or should be, the chief concern of the hotels. These, beyond all shadow of doubt, will be an enormously increasing factor. It should not be forgotten that tourist traffic, the legitimate article, has been non-existent for several years, and has not yet been revived. But already the allocation of many more big steamers to the Pacific run has been announced, and there is talk of the restoration and great development of the "via Suez" lines. The war has given the "wanderlust" to thousands of men who would otherwise never have seriously thought of leaving their home country. Having seen something of other lands as fighting men, they will wish to see more as honest, out-and-out pleasure-seekers. The "holiday abroad" will become less of a great adventure than before. "Round the world" trips will become a vogue, with keen competition in the "cheap ticket" direction. Then the well-to-do, of the pre-war tourist type, have a lot of lost time to make up, and will not be found wanting in enthusiasm.

Generally, the world has become a smaller place, and more people will want to see more of it. That conjecture seems to have only a distant relation with the matters of villas up on the Peak and flats at Kowloon, but the relation is really surprisingly intimate. It has a calculable bearing on the Hongkong Housing Problem. Stay! Is "problem" the right word? A problem is something the solution of which is difficult to find. That cannot be said of housing for Hongkong, as I hope to prove in future articles.

(The foregoing is the first of a series of four articles on the housing question, written specially for the Hongkong Telegraph. The remaining articles will deal with facts and causes of the present situation, possible remedial measures, and conclusions. The second article will appear on Friday.)

THE CHINA SQUADRON

NOT YET REORGANISED.

The composition and strength of the reconstructed China Squadron is still wrapped in a thin veil of mystery. From all appearances, the London papers appear to know more regarding it than the Naval authorities here. The other day we mentioned, on the authority of a Home newspaper, that H.M.S. Centaur would likely join the China Squadron. There have been other reports in connection with the reconstruction of the China Squadron, but so far the Admiralty has not vouchsafed much information to Vice-Admiral Sir F. C. T. Tudor, the Commander-in-Chief in Hongkong. The Squadron has not yet been completely reorganised.

The ships of the pre-war squadron were sent to different parts of the world, as they were required. H.M.S. Suffolk and Kent, which are cruisers, are on the Station, while H.M.S. Tarantula, Tamar, Robin, Cadmus, Sandpiper and three or four others are also on the Station. These are small ships and are not important.

H.M.S. Tarantula is on her way down here, and H.M.S. Fame has gone to Canton.

H.M.S. Carlisle, which is a cruiser coming out to join the China Squadron, has been delayed in Egypt, and will be here in about three weeks.

H.M.S. Hawkins, a battle-cruiser, will also join the Squadron, coming out from England. She is expected in Hongkong in June.

ACTIVITY IN THE NAVY.

Eight members of the Royal Navy were court-martialled recently at Devonport on a charge of mutiny while serving on board a destroyer at Milford Haven on Jan. 13. The accused pleaded "Not guilty." It was alleged that the men mutinied because the commanding officer refused to allow them to work in three watches instead of two. In consequence of the refusing duty the vessel had to be brought back to port by the engine room staff, a midshipman taking the wheel. The commander went ashore to report the matter, and in his absence the accused hauled down the flag from the masthead and hoisted a red flag. The commander's order to haul down the latter was immediately obeyed. One of the accused made the remark that half the British Navy are on strike and the other half soon will be. They refused to work in two watches for the pay they were receiving. Commander Patterson, R.N.R., thought that the trouble was not spontaneous, but prearranged. Leading Seaman Foran, one of the accused, said discontent existed on the ship on account of the officers passing disparaging remarks about the men, whom they compared unfavourably with men of the merchant service. The other seven defendants declined to give evidence, but in a joint statement said if the commanding officer had allowed them to state their grievances they would have carried on. Able Seaman Ellis, another accused, in a written statement, said he was a survivor of H.M.S. Seagull when she was rammed, and on the day of the mutiny he had had more than his fair share of rum. The Court passed the following sentences: Able Seaman Ellis, 2 years' hard labour, and dismissed from the service; Able Seaman Talbot, Purdy, and Mangle, 1 year's hard labour; Able Seaman Forbes, Davies, and Scrivenor, 90 days' detention; Leading Seaman Foran was acquitted.

To-Day's Exchange.

The closing rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 1.15-16d.

The Weather.

Forecast:—cloudy. Barometer: 30.01. Temperature 2 p.m.:—66. Humidity 2 p.m.:—79.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

CHARGE OF FORGERY.

The March Criminal Sessions were resumed this morning before Sir William Rees Davies, K.C., Chief Justice.

Tsang Ti-cho was charged with forgery.

The Attorney-General, the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by the Crown Solicitor, Mr. G. H. Wakeman, appeared for the prosecution and Mr. G. O. Alabaster, R.E., instructed by Mr. E. L. Agassiz, defended the accused.

The jury were:—Messrs. G. H. Kim, C. B. Brown, Wong Sik-kai, A. R. Kinross, A. de Costa, V. A. Yvanovich and K. Laing.

Opening the case for the prosecution, the Attorney General said the prisoner was charged under the Forgery Ordinance, with uttering, first of all, a forged note on the Chartered Bank for \$100, well knowing the note to be a forged one. The second was that of feloniously having in his possession a forged note, knowing it to be a forgery. The facts were very simple. Evidence would be called by the prosecution to show that on January 26 last, the accused went to the Wing Chan pawnshop, in Queen's Road East, and attempted to redeem some articles of clothing which had been pawned some time ago.

Accused was told that the principal and interest to be paid amounted to \$55.10, whereupon he tendered the \$100 note. The accountant examined the note and said to the accused:—"This is a \$100 note altered into '\$100'." When the accused heard that he immediately ran away, but was subsequently arrested. There was no question as to the jury having to determine whether there had been a mistake as to the identity of the accused because he was identified by the accountant of the pawnshop and, in addition to that, he said, when charged at the Police Station, that the note was lent to him by a friend and that he did not know that it was forged. In other words, he said that he was used by his friend to redeem the clothes and his friend gave him the note and it was taken in good faith. Counsel said he submitted that the jury were entitled to draw their own inference from the facts and they had, in this case, an inference that was very damaging to the prisoner, that was, directly the accountant of the pawnshop intimated that there was something wrong with the note, the prisoner started to run away. The jury had to decide whether the accused's conduct was consistent with innocence.

Evidence was then taken. The case is proceeding.

DONT FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Coronet Theatre—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

China Sugar Refining Co. Ltd. Shareholders meeting—11.30 a.m.
"Pinkie" and the "Fairies" Special matinee at 3.30 p.m.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Coronet Theatre—9.15 p.m.

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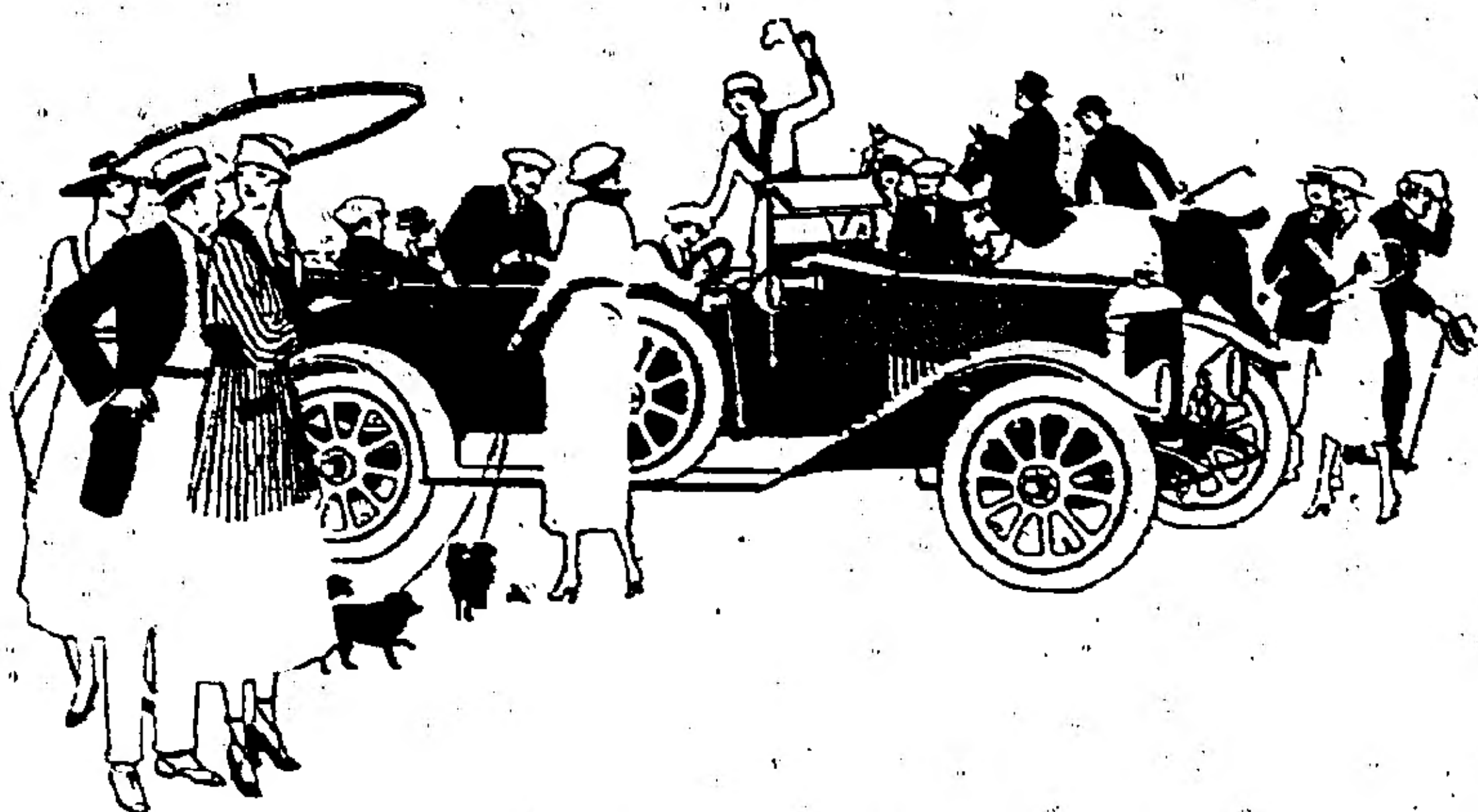
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FROM THE PULPIT.

THE MOTH AND HER MISSION.

Notes of a sermon by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald, at the Union Church, on Sunday morning.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal."—Mat. 6/19.

Hosea Biglow entered on his notes a query whether Noah was justified in preserving a certain class of insect. With these, householders would be inclined to class the clothes moth, for it is a vexatious thing to find that this little creature, for purposes of its own, has stolen a march on you, and eaten its way through your precious fabrics at places where concealment is impossible and mending would disfigure. From the merely human point of view, the existence and activities of the moth would certainly seem to need explanation. From the insect's own point of view, however, it is the moth and not man that is the centre of creation, and man's chief use must be found in the fact that he is the only creature foolish enough to store fabrics for moths to lay eggs in. Still, if the moth needs justification on the ground of service rendered to humanity—a very questionable assumption, though a common one—it is surely discernible in her having been constituted in a humble, Scriptural way, a preacher of righteousness to her generation as Noah was to his.

Instead of anathematizing the moth we had better let her preach to us, and read us that ever-needed lesson against covetousness and care which the Divine Master teaches through her humble instrumentality.

More than once or twice elsewhere in the Bible, this obscure destroyer of human vanity is used to point a moral. Job, the Psalmists, and Isaiah all do this, and most trenchant of all is the Apostle James in his reproofs of rich men:—"Your riches are corrupted, your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered, and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire." Words like these

had a very sharp point in the ancient East, where there was less investing and more actual hoarding in chests and cupboards. However, the moth makes little of locks and keys, except that the closer things are kept the better she does her work on them. Clothing was made to be worn, not hoarded, and if the moth does nothing else for her living she at least brings that truth home. She is a perpetual preacher of the simple life, whether men will bear or whether they will forbear. You may have as many changes of raiment as Samson or Queen Elizabeth, but if you only hoard them up the moth will get at them, and like all God's servants, she is no respecter of persons. If you have more stuff than you know well what to do with, don't go filling your drawer with camphor. Give the stuff away. "He that hath two coats, let him give to him that hath none," is good teaching. Christians are not so much to use preservatives as to be such—"Salt of the earth." Then why those camphorated hoardings, and all the trouble and worry they give you? All this, to be sure, is parable, and no one need take it literally, though that would be better than not at all. Take reasonable means, of course, to keep the rot out of your reasonable household stores. Lay something by for a rainy day if you can, insure your life modestly, by all means, and don't look to the Government for your old age pension. Lay up something, if you like, for your children, though not very much if they are fit to provide for themselves. But whatever you do, keep the canker of care and covetousness out of your heart, keep the rust of worldliness from corroding your life and soul, lay up for yourselves what the Bible calls "a good foundation against the time to come," and have something belonging to you in that world where there is neither old age nor pensions. Clothing was made to be worn, which is a way of saying that life was not meant to be a battle with them. Similarly of coin. Coin was made to be circulated, and it is only when the good things of life are kept in use and passed from hand to hand that they retain their polish. Spend your admiration on the old, worn, battered coin, not the new and bright one, fresh from the mint. The new one is worthless except for what it may do in the course of getting old and worn and battered. It is a poor career for a coin to go straight from the mint to the miser. In the miser's hands, it becomes one of the many things which

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have a name to live, and are dead covetousness and its corollary—like the miser himself. The of unbolted, against which your rust lays hold of it, and there it is, a warning, his followers wastes, the bright gift of God, more, perhaps, than any other which was meant to get worn out temptation. Looking too far in the uses of trade, in buying ahead, crippling to-day with to children's bread, in feeding the morrow's burden, filling the heart widow's fire, in sending the glad with tears of a time which any tidings of Christ, around the never come, and which if it does world. The over-valuing of will come from God; like the wealth is the disease, and for others, living in peace, do who nation of most people, every know nothing of a misery where, and provides the whole Father, choking the word of the raw material for the sins of (Continued on page 2)

FROM THE PULPIT.

(Continued from Page 2.)

with the rank growths of worldly anxiety, wearing out heart and brain in that hot pursuit of superfluities which is misnamed struggle for existence—what is the goal of being a Christian if such be in any considerable degree the temper of one's life? In such a frame of mind we only obscure the light, instead of passing it on. We make ourselves wholly unfit to transmit the world-winning summons. "Come unto me and I will give you rest; my yoke is easy." Mammon's burden is heavy. God, wot, and too many go on hearing it, "not accepting their deliverance" in Christ. There is an old prayer which Bunyan said in his time had gone rusty for want of use:—"Give me not riches." That was long ago, and I am afraid the rust is on it still. The ordinary habit and effort of mankind keeps up a constant friction on this matter against the counsels of the sages, the precepts of the gospel, and the child instinct by which we call on God as Father. On the other hand, there are, happily, certain practical correctives, such as the moth, the rust, and even the thief. These teach in hard fact what philosophy and religion alike lay down as first principles, and bring truth home to the hearthstone which wisdom cries in vain in the street.

This world of ours may be too materialistic by half, but its happenings do work out in the long run in a way which should bring home to the dullest that it simply will not do to have our hearts' treasure anywhere but in the Kingdom of spirit and truth. If moth and rust are too slow and silent then the thief will one day break through your walls and your apathy together. You cannot keep him out with camphor, nor ward him off with paint. No one will justify the thief, but is there much more justification, after all, for the spirit which sets supreme value on that which the thief is tempted to take? And when the thief has done his worst, is it really so disastrous? If the course of trade should impoverish you, if the turn of circumstances, the unforeseeable event should leave you almost bare, as might happen any day to any of you—well, would your citadel have been stormed?

Better the worm in your stuff than the canker in your heart; better rust on your riches than corrosion in your character. These seem to be pretty much the alternatives in life as we see it, and whoever would enter the Kingdom of Heaven may thank God for every agency which works to enforce upon our blindness and reluctance the simple but slowly learnt truth that a man's life consists not in the abundance of the things which he possesses, and that a Christian's inheritance is one which is incorruptible and undefiled and which fadeth not away. These things are so, and we know in our hearts that they are so. Yet we go on repeating the daily fallacy that we should know how much a man is "worth" if we could see his bank account, and that is much more than just the popular misuse of a word, for it reveals the sordid misreading of life which has made civilisation, so far, such a startling failure.

Whatever we may think about such matters, there is no doubt; at all what Jesus Christ thinks about them, and it will never be well with the world until the men cease deriding and denying in their practice, the truth to which perhaps they do lip homage. When great losses of means overtake Christian men their regrets are not so much for the loss itself as for having failed to use wealth better when they had it. "What I gave I have," said a wise man. What you put out to use is the only property which can never be taken from you. It is so much subtracted from the possibility of losses; so much put beyond the gnawing of the worm, the corroding of rust, the capriciousness and ingenuity of the thief. You search for "gilt-edged securities?" Christ offers you some which are solid gold all through.

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THE DAYLIGHT USING
SCHEME.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS.

As there seems to be a considerable amount of uncertainty as to the advisability of altering the clock during the summer months, we are dealing with the matter in some detail, says the *N. C. Daily News*. "Daylight saving" has been objected to by hair-splitters, so we will call it daylight "using" for all that it amounts to is that one of the hours most of us spend asleep after sunrise is spent awake before sunset; if the Customs clock is pushed an hour forward next Monday week—which is the proposal before us. It has been said that an hour's sleep before midnight is worth two hours after—if that really is so we gain an hour under the new scheme.

First a great deal too much has been said about the extra time it will give for sports and pastimes. A correspondent in yesterday's paper even went so far as to say that the only argument was that the theatre-goer would get to bed an hour earlier, ignoring the rather obvious fact that theatres are at a discount during the summer, and that rather than being an advantage to the theatre-goer, it would be a drawback—for the later the hour the cooler it is.

The scheme suggested, put briefly, is exactly the same as when the ship's clock is altered at sea. Every one sets his own watch to the changed time, which is generally changed at night, and in the course of an hour or two the incident is forgotten. In Shanghai the Customs and other clocks will be changed, we shall correct our private clocks to agree, and shall have forgotten the incident before we cease work in the afternoon. This needs to be emphasised, as the opinion has prevailed in certain cases that the clocks of Shanghai would be keeping different times. Such is not the case. Those who remember the putting forward or backward of the ship's clock may also remember how quickly the lost or gained hour was forgotten.

Now for the reason of the change. In summer the sun rises at 5 a.m. and sets at 7 p.m. in these latitudes. As the result of bad habits formed by us in a past generation we get up late and go to bed late, our normal working hours here being 9 till 5, with an interval for tiffin. This means that there are four hours of daylight before work is

begun, and only two after it is finished. The absurdity is apparent and the scheme now brought forward simply means that we shall place our working hours in the middle of the day, and not at the tail end of it, giving us three daylight hours before beginning work and three daylight hours after. As things are, the four hours 5 to 9 a.m. are difficult for the majority to put to good use, for which custom is to blame, while the two hours between office and dinner are too crowded.

The two objections worth consideration are the effect of the change on the shipping community and the Chinese. A mercantile marine captain writing to-day covers the first—ships are too well practised in changing time to be confused by what is an innovation only to us. The Chinese seem to cause doubt in some minds. Ten miles from Shanghai, or any other large city in China, one of the most difficult problems is: what is the right time? "Sun time is working time" sums up the great mass of Chinese; the others in Shanghai adapt their time to the foreigner.

To anyone who has experienced the same scheme when it was put into effect in England, and the writer has, there is no question as to its simplicity and value. It had to stand the same kind of opposition that is directed against it here, practically all from theorists who claimed that "the country could not be bamboozled into thinking that 8 o'clock was 9 o'clock." In England there was some excuse for those who anticipated dire confusion—they had never been to sea and had never realised that the clock and not the sun is the arbiter of our time.

The question may come forward at to-day's British Chamber of Commerce meeting. If it does, it is hoped that conservatism will not stand in the way of saving an hour's daylight during our waking hours, instead of wasting it asleep.

ALLIES' WAR MEDAL.

General Diaz, the Italian Generalissimo, says it was Marshal Foch who conceived the idea of an identical commemorative medal and ribbon for all the troops of all the Allied and Associated Powers who took part in the war. The design of this medal is still under consideration. The Marshal wants it to be of a symbolical character, and the ribbon should be a combination of the colours of the Allied nations.

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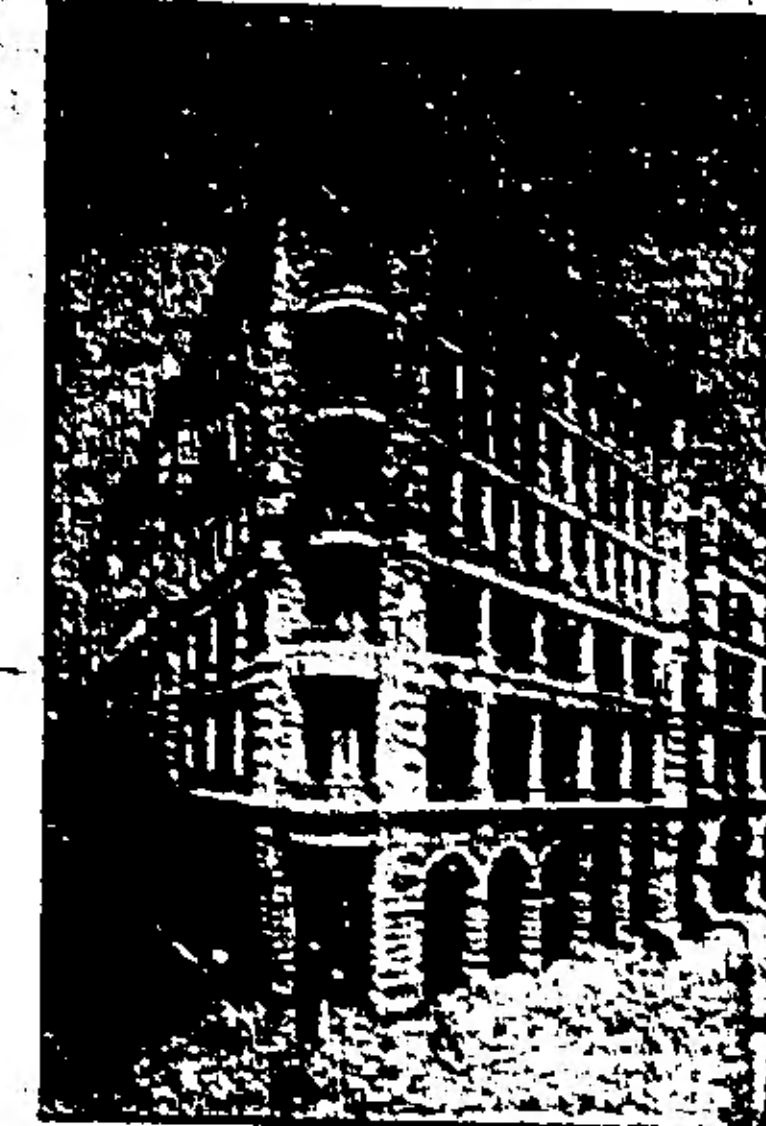
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The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1919.

A CALL TO THE COLONIES.

It is quite beyond question that the war has achieved at least one good result for the British Empire by bringing the Motherland into closer and more sympathetic touch with the vast Overseas Dominions. British history books of the future will be sure to refer to this as one of the few saving features of the war. Men from the United Kingdom have fought and died as comrades-in-arms of Australians, Canadians, Newfoundlanders, New Zealanders, South Africans and, indeed, volunteers from every other part of the Empire. They have learned to know and appreciate each other both in the trenches and out of them. They have mixed together in rest billets behind the lines, and met in cafes and Estaminets and spent many evenings in fruitful discussion over a book or a bottle of *vin ordinaire*. And the result of it all has been that Englishmen, Scotsmen, Welshmen, and Irishmen have made firm friends among the troops from Overseas. They have been told of the wonderful breath of life men's life in these far-away Dominions, and the appeal of it has been so irresistible that many of them have frequently expressed the intention of emigrating, "after the war," so that they may make their homes among their new friends. Life in France and the other theatres of the war has widened the outlook of the men of the Motherland, and many of them feel that the Old Country is too cramped to offer them all sufficient prospects of making good, so they want to share in the fortunes of one of the Great Dominions. It will be neither to their own advantage nor to that of the country of their choice, if they go out only to wander aimlessly about looking for a job. Many of them will have no money at all beyond their gratuities, and, if they do not find employment at once, will find themselves quickly in financial straits.

Now that the world is on the threshold of peace, many employers in the Overseas Dominions will be confronted with the advisability or even necessity of largely increasing their staffs of employees. Not only is there bound to be a big boom in farming and stock-breeding, but also in most of the industries. Rubber and tea planting and many other purely Overseas ventures will be badly in need of men. The war has, unfortunately, cost the British Empire a very heavy percentage of its manhood, and the Dominions have suffered in proportion to the Motherland. Even after the resettlement in civil life of the returning Dominions warriors, Overseas employers will still have many vacancies to fill, and this without taking into consideration the probable extension of their business. For these vacancies they will naturally desire the best men. And the way to get the right man of a job, is not to employ casually any man who may turn up and ask for work. Business men like to know at least something of the qualifications of the men they are to employ. With this end in view, many Overseas employers will no doubt get into touch with the Directorates of the Appointments Department, Ministry of Labour, Gresham House, London, E. C., which have in their registers the names of hundreds of British officers desirous of taking up Overseas occupations. The Appointments Department was specially set up to deal with officers and men of like educational qualifications, who upon demobilisation from the British Army have no definite employment awaiting them. This Department aims at finding every man the job for which he is best suited, both by inclination and qualifications, and if he is not already trained, it assists him to get the necessary training to enable him to become a really useful member of the community. It is not too much to say that the Appointments Department has at its disposal much of the flower of England's manhood—the best brains, physique and intelligence. Some of these men are untrained for any vocation, having entered the Army straight from School or University, others have received only a preliminary training, the advent of war cutting short their education, while the rest are trained men.

It is realised that many Overseas employers, especially farmers and stockbreeders, will prefer to do their own training, but whether they wish for trained or untrained men, employers cannot do better than get into direct touch with the afore-mentioned Directorates of the Appointments Department of the British Ministry of Labour and make known to them their requirements. By so doing they may rest assured that they will be offered the right men for the right jobs. They will not find themselves in the position of looking around and finding only men who have no special qualifications for that branch, so far as they are aware. Lastly, by employing true-born Britishers they will be welding still more closely the links which bind the Overseas Dominions to the Motherland and will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are keeping undesirable aliens from their shores.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE OLD, OLD PROBLEM.

The housing problem once again. We print elsewhere today a letter from a local resident who feelingly refers to a report that there is a likelihood of the whole of Belilios Terrace falling into Japanese hands. If this happens, we are told that no fewer than fifty families, mostly Portuguese, will be without a roof over their heads. This terrace, as is well known, is situated in what can now only be ironically described as the European Reservation. It has provided residences for large numbers of Portuguese for many years, and we can well understand the apprehensions which are felt concerning its possible absorption by people who, unlike those in danger of being dispossessed, do not look upon Hongkong as their permanent home. We are unable to say what truth there is in the rumour mentioned by our correspondent, but we feel, with him, that it is high time some means were taken of preventing whole blocks of houses falling into the hands of strangers to the Colony. This can only be done by devising some scheme of reservations whereby definite areas would be set aside for various sections of the community. In such a scheme a place could be found for Japanese and Chinese too, where they could build for themselves. But it is not right that they should, because of the possession of wealth, step in and deprive others of house and home. We say these things without the tiniest feeling of ill-will. We are looking at the matter from the purely practical standpoint. Something must be done to put a stop to this thing. Surely the Government will step in before it is too late.

THE PEACE TERMS.

It seems that all the Allies are entirely in agreement regarding the preliminary peace terms, but there is a hitch with regard to the League of Nations, the inclusion of which is more important than the terms themselves. France is still dubious regarding the League theory, but it is very likely that she will soon be won over by the other Allies to accept it. As far as the terms to be imposed on Germany are concerned, there has been no difficulty in arriving at an amicable agreement, and we find that the Supreme War Council has adopted the military, naval and aerial terms drawn up by the Peace Preliminaries. These terms are said to be of a very severe character, and decide once and for all that Germany as a naval and military power ceases to exist. With regard to the suggestion made by Admiral Leygues that it is dangerous to leave the Kiel Canal in the hands of Germany, it seems that this view is shared by the Council, and, in all probability, the Kiel Canal will be placed on a footing similar to that of the Suez Canal. The suggestion made by Japan regarding race equality does not seem to have gained much support, and, in fact, as far as the British Delegation is concerned, is flatly negatived. There is no difference of opinion among the Allies regarding the financial and territorial aspects of the Treaty of Peace, but this question presupposes a League of Nations, and before we can hope for results, the Allies must be absolutely in agreement on this, the most essential basis of the Treaty. Take for example the decision to assign the ex-German Colonies to mandatory Powers. This amounts to so many empty words unless the League of Nations is established, and we would say, therefore, make sure of the League first, and then draw up the rest of the peace terms. Luckily there is every sign that France will be entirely converted to the opinion of the rest of the Allies on the subject, and no doubt the matter will soon be settled.

LAWN TENNIS.

H.K.C.C. TOURNAMENT.

Only two matches were played yesterday in the H.K.C.C. lawn tennis tournament, the results being:

Handicap Singles "A."—N. E. Kent (own 15) defeated A. A. Claxton (own 3/6) 5-7, 6-1, 6-1. Mixed Handicap Doubles.—C. Thorne and J. S. Jennings (own 3/6) defeated J. S. Jennings and Mrs. Manning (own 1/6) 6-4, 6-4.

DAY BY DAY.

DON'T PUT IN TOO MUCH TIME STANDING ON DIGNITY OR RIDING A HOBBY.

Yesterday's health return shows two fatal cases of enteric fever, both victims being Chinese.

We have received for the use of the troops stationed in the Colony, a quantity of reading matter from an anonymous donor.

The fifth annual dinner of the Hongkong University Medical Society is being held at the Hongkong Hotel to-morrow at 8 p.m.

Mr. G. W. Gegg informs us, for the benefit of intending exhibitors at the forthcoming Poultry Show, that Mr. Longinotto's poultry will be shown for exhibition purposes only and not for competition.

Mr. Francis A. Carl, Commissioner of the Chinese Customs, and Mrs. Carl, expect to leave Canton for the North to-morrow afternoon, Mr. Carl having been transferred to Antung, Manchuria, at his own request, for health reasons.

Trade Inquiry List No. 105, issued by the American Consulate General, Hongkong, shows that American concerns are seeking Hongkong connections as listed below:—General import and export; rice; Chinese drugs; paper; motor trucks; chemicals; dyes and drug; bamboos.

At the Criminal Sessions yesterday afternoon the case was concluded in which Lo Chuen, a foreman in the Public Works Department, was charged with receiving a bribe. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and prisoner was accordingly acquitted. Mr. Potter made an application to the Chief Justice that the sum of \$400 which was the subject of the charge, should be returned to prisoner. After a short discussion His Lordship decided to return the money to the accused.

Owing to the unprecedented demand for seats for children, it has been decided to give a final matinee performance of "Pinky and the Fairies" on Wednesday next. An anonymous gentleman has very generously purchased the whole of the seats in the lower part of the Theatre, and will present them to the children of the Colony, so that only dress circle seats will be for sale. Special rates can be secured by school parties, applications for which should be made early to Messrs. Montre and Co. The booking for this matinee opens on Saturday, the 29th instant.

The biggest seizure of opium made by the Police for sometime past took place last night when a party of Police under Sergeant Dorling boarded the Macao steamer Sui An in consequence of the receipt of information that an attempt was about to be made to smuggle a large quantity of opium ashore. The Police made a search of the ship and discovered the drug secreted in a cupboard underneath the companion way leading from the main deck to the smoke room on the upper deck. The opium, which came from Macao, weighed 250 taels and its value is \$12,325. As no claimants came forward, the Magistrate this morning ordered the drug to be confiscated on the application of Sergeant Dorling.

Thieves have been getting busy with the stores of the Naval Yard. Yesterday they stole 36 lbs. of brass castings belonging to a submarine, which they threw over the wall to a path outside where two expectant confederates were waiting to receive and decamp with the brass. They were arrested by Sergeant Turner, of the A. S. C., who gave evidence to the effect that he saw one of them picking up the castings as they were being thrown over the wall and putting them in a basket which his companion was holding. The Magistrate observed that it was a serious matter to steal from the Government and he sentenced the men to six months' hard labour.

MODERN MODES.



DAINTY DRESS OF FOULARD.

Designs of the Moment by "Sacha."

Silk is the favourite material for all that one wants of it, is again in good form.

Then there are sports suits (the name is really a misnomer) fashioned of crepe de chine in lovely Summer hues, the skirts cautiously full and encircled with tucks and the coats with open rever fronts to disclose the lingerie blouse beneath. Unusually there is a self sash-girdle loosely knotted in front and the sleeves are wide at the wrist. In some instances the skirts of these so-called sports suits are lined from hem to waist, making them more practical.

Quite the newest silk has to do with sport wear (so many things do at this season of the year). It is a crinkled weave not unlike coarse jersey in appearance, though quite unrelated to it in fact. It is almost sheer and yet has sufficient body to make it practical for everyday wear. There are designs with narrow stripe and check effects and those with a large broken plaid pattern, mostly in self colour.

Wood fibre satins are to the fore again. As we all know, they are beautiful to the sight but not very satisfactory in the wearing test. However, that will not interfere with their renewed exploitation in separate skirts, coats and hats.

Speaking of silks reminds one that the Shantung has been included again, but with differences that distinguish them from their immediate predecessor. A novelty is a twill Shantung, woven in grosgrain effect and suitable for town or country wear. It comes in bique, ochre, rust brown and a yellowish red.

One is tempted to declare that the only smooth silks are the taffetas, but that, of course, would be an exaggeration. They, too, incline to a lustrous finish, not so pronounced as in the crepes and jerseys, but nevertheless present Taffeta. Let it be remarked, is beautiful only in the best qualities. At least, that is the assumption of the Paris couturiers who are using taffeta in considerable quantity for the new dresses.

Almost every woman will be glad to know that foulards will be good again this season. One cannot get away—even if she would—from the coin-spots and polkadots inseparably associated with foulards. Which is another way of saying that navy blue and black remain the smartest colours for the background, while the figure is considered the best for artistic effects.

There are, however, charming foulard examples, where the basic colour is gray, brown, rose, henna, white, Victory blue or turquoise. Small designs will doubtless be preferred to the splashy effect, and for those who go in for the demure and quaint there are figured and printed crepes and the Spring outfit. And colour, foulards in floral designs.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

General Sir George Milne concluded his dispatch on the operations of the Salonika Army upon a sombre note. He expresses high appreciation of his men, "the majority of whom," he says, "will return to their homes with constitutions shattered by a prolonged stay in this malarious and inhospitable country." It is to be hoped the Pensions Ministry will take note of that remark. They are none too generous to those who have within them the seeds of sickness. These who know would rather be without a limb than be subject to chronic malaria.

The chess world is getting excited. In America an expert is vying with British players in building a problem on the war to rival that invented by Franklin B. Young, of Boston, on the Battle of Waterloo. That problem established in the minds of chess players the fact that Wellington knew more about the game than Napoleon, and because of that defeated his opponent. I suppose the results obtained from the chess experts will determine whether or not Haig and Foch were conversant with the pawns, the bishops, the kings and the castles, and, if so, their superiority of tactical manoeuvre over Hindenburg and Ludendorff. But, as I understand, the fact that Haig and Foch won the war does not prove to the chess mind that they were superior in tactics. We may yet learn that the enemy were the better players.

The Londoners' ignorance of London was widely illustrated during the recent tube strikes when large numbers of people, finding themselves unable to travel to their places of business by tube, and having been defeated in the scrum at the tailboard of overloaded buses, were faced with the need of doing the journey afoot. They seem to know only one way there, "a policeman told an evening paper-reporter, "and now that has failed they are helpless." That will not surprise the many people who, like myself, have been asked constantly in the street to direct people, often obviously business men, to some of the best known spots in London. The positions of the Government offices are particularly little known. Most people know Downing-street, but comparatively few, I fancy, could name any other turning out of Whitehall.

Who is at the back of this ingenious suggestion that the beer shortage is the cause of the strikes at home? It is going strong in Yorkshire. Colliery districts have been scouring for habitation of village inns who looked likely subjects for an interview, and at the price of a drink have declared that a long unsatisfied thirst has made them restless. No doubt there are thousands of men longing for more beer, and bitterly resentful of the methods of the profiteer; but the suggestion that this is why they strike is preposterous. Does anybody seriously think that beer is at the root of the demands of the girls in the Yorkshire clothing trade? This stout may be the best the brewer can find as a set-off against the clear thinking that has been started by America going dry, but it is a poor effort at best.

General Sir Crofton Atkins, who is to take over the sales management of surplus Government motor transport, should find a ready customer in the Ministry of Reconstruction. Light railways may eventually prove more efficient for rural development in some areas, but lorries could be very effectively utilised in serving the hilly districts and in tapping our more distant agricultural resources in, say, Devon and Cornwall and Wales. Besides, the lorries are ready to hand—indeed, some of them are rusting and sinking in mud at Kempton Park, and need only a few spare parts to put them in running order again. The Douville trucks of France will have to be taken up, unbent, and transported before they can be used in this country. And the men in France don't seem to want to stay there for that job.

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"SHOULDER ARMS."

A CHARLIE CHAPLIN FILM.

The tragic phases of the experiences of the average doughboy, from the time of his first membership in the "rookie" squad until he becomes a full-fledged, dauntless terror to the Hun, is the basis of the story and acting in "Shoulder Arms." Charlie Chaplin's second million-dollar picture, showing at the Victoria Theatre.

Charlie's difficulties begin when his feet attract the attention of the drill sergeant. The command to "take them in—not out" causes complications that threaten to create a private war in Charlie's company. The manual of arms looked easy to Charlie until he tried it. The gun butt persists in stealing the place properly the position of the muzzle, not only to the discomfort of Charlie, but to the anxiety of his companions on the right and left of him. Finally he arrives in the first line trenches, to discover that his digestive machinery reacts strangely to the thunder of the cannon and explosions of big shells. A mouse trap, purchased for protection against the rumored attacks of rodents, spoils his first salute to his captain by deftly catching his extended fingers in its steel grip.

There are plenty of other amusing incidents in the film, including Charlie taking part in raids, his capture by the Germans, and a mad, bewildering ride with disastrous results for the German War Lord and his associates.

NAVAL QUADRILLE CLUB.

FINAL DANCE
OF THE SEASON.

The series of dances held at the Naval Canteen Theatre by the Royal Naval Quadrille Club was brought to a conclusion with the final dance given at the Theatre last night. This function drew a large number of people among whom were Flag Captain and Mrs. Fisher, Paymaster Lt. Holborn and Mrs. Holborn and a large number of other naval officers.

With the object of making this, the last dance of the season, a success, elaborate arrangements were made in the decorations, which were carried out with fine effect. The Theatre was attractively hung with a profusion of bunting. The most noticeable feature in the decorations was the erection of a framework in the alley way leading from the gate to the Theatre. It was closed in at the top and sides by large flags, the whole structure having the appearance of a corridor, lighted up by a long row of overhead electric bulbs.

The programme, which consisted of 26 dances, under the able direction of Mr. A. Woodley, who officiated as M. C., was gone through without a hitch. Suitable music was rendered by Mrs. Titman and Mr. White on the piano and violin respectively. Every dance had a good number of enthusiasts and the proceedings, lasted to an early hour this morning. There was a buffet located on the stage, where refreshments were supplied, the catering for which was in the hands of the Alexandra Cafe. The function was in every way a complete success.

THE ROUBLE.

The ups and downs of the rouble are very extraordinary. At one time the equivalent of Y100 was considerably over 1,000 roubles, but it was said then that this was purely a Japanese speculative manipulation, the quotations in Britain giving three times as high a value to this currency. Partly, of course, it was a legitimate local difference due to the demand for goods which could be imported only into Vladivostok and paid for only in paper. About four months ago there was a rapid recovery, the equivalent of Y100

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REPORT

THE BOARD OF FILM CENSORS

ON

"CHICKEN CASEY."

As a whole	...	Entertaining
Story	...	Convincing
Star	...	Well Cast
Support	...	Capable
Setting	...	Excellent
Photography	...	Very Good Indeed

Great credit is due to Thos. A. Ince, the director, for the manner in which he has handled a very charming story. Parts two and three might have been coarse and suggestive in less experienced hands. Mr. Ince has most successfully carried through a daring situation with delicacy and refinement.

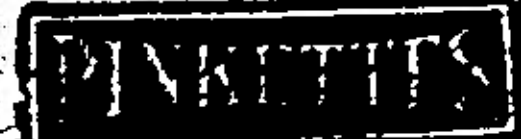
being in the neighbourhood of 350 roubles. But ever since then the price has been declining, and during the past week (March 15) the decline has become very rapid, over 800 roubles now being demanded for Y100. There are also roubles and roubles, the old regime being the most valuable with a progressive decline in subsequent issues. The partial withdrawal of the Siberian expedition, with the cutting-up of the Tanaka detachment and the prospect of more serious business, has made its due contribution to the decline and the continued issue of notes by the Bolshevik Government cheapens the notes. It is said that the notes are made in Germany but that cannot be regarded as signifying any unprecedented immorality on the part of the enemy, as a huge consignment was only just stopped in time from being shipped on the Pacific coast. There is, of course, much wire-pulling by speculators in high places, but the history of that factor in determining policy may never be completely told.—*Japan Chronicle*.

WHAT IS BEING SUNG?

Inquiries as to the songs sung by the people and soldiers show that though new favourites are ousting the old friends, the kind of song that is wanted for the drawing-room, the hut, or the hospital is much the same as it ever was. Those who know most of the soldier say that he does not care to make his own songs. He remains in contrast to the fighters of other peoples—musically inarticulate. But there is one song about Mother Brown believed to have originated in a dug-out on some front, and to have spread through the Army, and thence into the home, for

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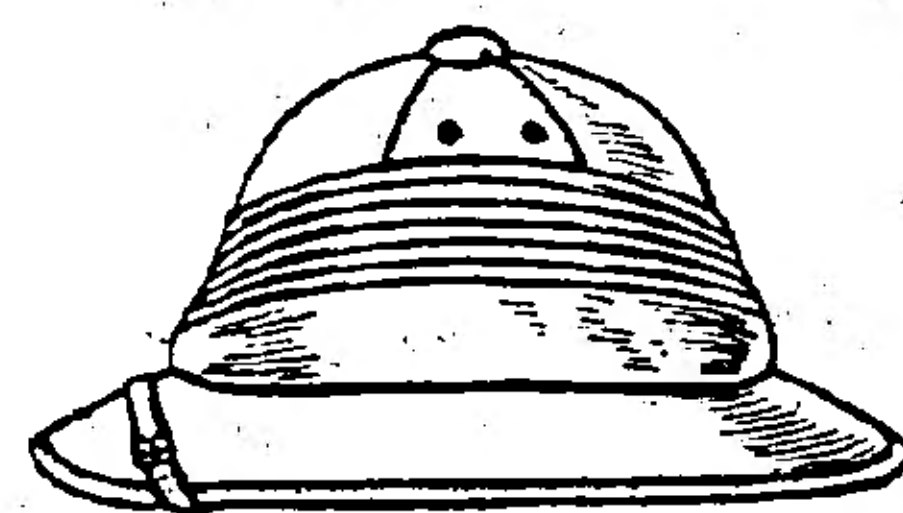
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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HOUSING PROBLEM.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—The appointment of the War Memorial Committee and the general invitation to all and sundry to give their views regarding the form the memorial should take have had the effect of consigning to oblivion the acuteness of the housing problem, which is daily increasing in intensity by the wholesale purchasing by Chinese and Japanese of European houses in the European Reservation area.

Since the War Memorial Committee was appointed, the housing problem has increased in intensity, and, with all deference to the Government, I submit it is far more important for the present to see that the remaining European and Portuguese residents who have not been ousted of their homes by Chinese and Japanese are left with roofs over their heads; and, in the meantime leave the question of the War Memorial in abeyance.

A very strong rumour, which I have every reason to believe is true, is current that a certain wealthy Japanese firm is negotiating for the purchase of Belilios Terrace, situated on Robinson Road, and consisting of no less than 27 houses; in which about fifty families, mostly Portuguese, live. Not one of these houses is occupied by Chinese or Japanese; and the result, if the negotiations bear fruit, will be to render quite 50 families literally homeless.

Assuming that new houses will eventually be erected to house the unfortunate European families who have been and are continually being most cruelly ousted of their homes by Chinese and Japanese who will not find their own sites and build their own houses, may I ask what will be the lot of these poor families in the meantime? Will they be forced to live in tents? Must the Chinese and Japanese who are able to flaunt their wealth take precedence over poor helpless families in this way?

I know, Mr. Editor, that you have always pegged away at the seriousness of the housing question and constantly urged strong action to be taken, but will nothing be done to stem this terrible onslaught, so to speak, before it is too late?

The recent legislation regarding residence in the Peak goes to show that something can be done in the lower levels. I appeal to the Government, to property owners, particularly the owners of Belilios Terrace, and to everyone of influence not to render homeless the large number of helpless families who

are now occupying Belilios Terrace and to do all in their power to prevent this large property falling into the hands of the Japanese who will demolish the 27 houses and erect new buildings for their Mess.

Will this appeal fall on deaf ears at a time when strong action must need be taken? Will the Government not stir itself to act at once?

Yours etc.

DISTRIBUTED.
Hongkong, March 25, 1919.

VICTORY BONUS.

Sir,—Since the signing of the Armistice, many firms have granted to their staff a bonus varying from one to three months' salary or more. The latest is even published in the annual report of a certain company, and is a generous grant. There is no doubt that the Victory Bonus, started by the few, and now imitated by many, is not prompted merely by sentiment or feelings of thankfulness by heads of firms for the cessation of hostilities. Heads of firms have given thought and consideration to the conditions that have prevailed since the beginning of the War. They see how their staffs have persevered with patience in "carrying on as usual." They recognize that many of their men have done more than one man's work, in some cases, more than two man's work. They concede that in spite of the hardships of military and other extra arduous duties, their businesses have been maintained in efficiency, profits have rolled in, and in the prospect of larger business and profits, which now looms ahead, the staff on which they have been so entirely dependent during the War has made it possible for that firm to start in and reap the benefits.

Many firms, large, small, limited and unlimited, are in the position thus briefly described, some have done the graceful act; it remains now for those who have hitherto ignored this call of duty, conscience and right, to do a little thinking and considering, and pay what is due. The labourer is worthy of his hire; but to bear the burden of absent labourers in addition to one's own is surely worthy of consideration and reward.

It will then be shown that all will be able to share in the celebration of victory and peace; not the taipans alone who have made their harvest, but the employees and assistants also, who in the majority of cases are poorer than before the War, having had with the rest, to contribute, contribute, contribute, but with nothing coming in.

Enclosing my card,

Yours etc.

"IS NOT IT?"

Hongkong, March 26, 1919.

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MONTEAGLE	5 April.	29 April.
EMPRESS OF RUSSIA	1 May.	19 May.
EMPRESS OF JAPAN	14 May.	4 June.
EMPRESS OF ASIA	29 May.	16 June.
MONTEAGLE	10 June.	4 July.
EMPRESS OF RUSSIA	26 June.	14 July.
EMPRESS OF JAPAN	9 July.	30 July.
EMPRESS OF ASIA	24 July.	11 Aug.
MONTEAGLE	15 Aug.	8 Sept.
EMPRESS OF RUSSIA	21 Aug.	8 Sept.

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NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKO- HAMA	Nikko Maru T. 9,600	{ TUES., 1st Apr. at 11 a.m.

SHANGHAI & KOBE	Kamo M. T. 15,980	{ SAT., 5th Apr. at noon.
	Iyo Maru T. 15,980	{ SAT., 19th Apr. at noon.

LONDON via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Suez and Port-Said	Tango Maru T. 13,560	{ WED., 25th Mar. at 11 a.m.
	Nikko M. T. 9,600	{ WED., 23rd Apr.

MELBOURNE via Manila, Zam- boanga, Thursday Is., Towns- ville, Brisbane & Sydney	Nikko M. T. 9,600	{ WED., 23rd Apr.
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BOMBAY via Singapore, Malac- ca and Colombo	Toyo Maru T.	{ Middle of April.
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CALCUTTA via Singapore, Pen- ang and Rangoon	Yotorofu M. T.	{ THUR., 27th Mar. at 11 a.m.
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KOREA MARU	2nd Apr. from Yokohama.
NIPPON MARU	2nd Apr. from Yokohama.
YENYO MARU	3rd May.
SHINYO MARU	21st May.
SINERIA MARU	2nd May, from Yokohama.

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Hongkong, 11, Mar. 1917.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

SINO-FRENCH ENTERPRISE.

Mr. Wei Han, special delegate of the Peking government in connection with the reorganization of the Chinshin shipbuilding yard with Sino-French capital, has arrived at Shanghai and he is consulting Mr. Nicolas Tsu and the Banque de Indo-Chine about the matter. After the reorganization of the yard, French experts will be employed to direct the works so that it will become one of the best and largest shipbuilding yards in the Far East.

A FLOATING POWER STATION.

One of the many British "Freak" vessels produced during the war is the floating electric power station, officially known as C. D. 253. Although it is formally a ship, it was under the control of the War Office, not the Admiralty, having been secured for the service of the Directorate of Inland Waterways and Docks. Its function was to supply electric current as and where required for the miscellaneous operations of this Department in connection with docks, harbours, and canals used for military transport. At a distance this vessel might pass for a gunboat without guns, technically it is described as a steel barge. Amidships is a complete electric power station of 1,000 horse-power designed so that practically any type of electrical installation can be fed from this source. Two oil tanks each with a capacity of 20 tons, and an electrically-driven workshop with lathe, drilling machine, and other repair plant, complete the main part of the equipment. While this "universal electric provider" is the direct outcome of war conditions, similar equipments are likely to be very useful in the construction of sea and river works. They are also worth considering for the permanent supply of electricity to riverside towns where, owing to the nature of the sub-soil and other local conditions an ordinary power station would be difficult of erection on a site convenient for water and fuel supply. In remote parts of the world a floating oil-power electric station could probably be installed and run much cheaper than a land station.

SHIP'S MOTOR LIFEBOATS.

English and Scottish firms who specialise in the building of small motor craft are wisely giving much attention to the turning out of ship's motor lifeboats and salvage launches to standard model. Since the Board of Trade allowed the carrying of a certain number of motor-lifeboats in lieu of ordinary boats, considerable progress has been made in this direction, with the result that there are now close on 20 British firms each turning out their own standard boat. In the writer's opinion the time is not far distant when not only will the motor lifeboat be included in the life-saving equipment of every passenger ship, but it will also be seen in the davits of every ocean-going cargo-carrier. A particularly handy power-lifeboat is the Captain Murray double-ended boat, which is being supplied to those handsome liners which form the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's fleet. Recently two of these boats were completed at Glasgow to the order of the C. P. R. Company. These Captain Murray lifeboats are standardised, and are 30 ft. in length by 9 ft. beam by 4 ft. moulded depth, and are constructed on the double skin carvel principle; the inner skin being of larch and laid on diagonally, while the outer skin is of oak, and is fore and aft. Forward and aft there are short decks while forward of midships there is a spray hood to give protection from the weather. Wheel steering gear is fitted as well as the usual steering tiller, and two heavy towing bollards are arranged right aft. The propelling machinery, which, by the way is installed abaft midships, takes the form of a 20 h.p. Gardner paraffin set fitted with petrol starting and coupled up to a Gardner reverse gear. The Captain Murray boat is of a particularly handy and serviceable type. It is not over-heavy and can therefore be easily and quickly lowered; furthermore, it is devoid of any hamper and accordingly has good weatherly qualities. It of course conforms to the latest Board of Trade Regulations.

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SWATOW & BANGKOK	Taming	31st Mar. at 10 a.m.
SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO	Kwangse	31st Mar. at noon
SHANGHAI	Keen	1st Apr. at noon
SHANGHAI	Sunning	3rd Apr. at noon

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Tijmanoeck	Japan	5th Apr.	6th Apr.	Java

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FOR SWATOW.

Haitan... A. H. Stewart... FRI., 28th Mar. at 1 p.m.

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For	Steamship	On
KOBE	Kwaisang	Fri., 28th Mar. at d'light
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 28th Mar. at 3 p.m.
STRAITS & Calcutta	Kumsang	Tues., 1st Apr. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Wingsang	Fri., 4th Apr. at d'light
MANILA	Loongsang	Fri., 4th Apr. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE.—This line is now being reorganized and will shortly afford frequent and regular sailings to Calcutta via Singapore and Penang.

Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed via Straits and Hongkong to Japan, occasionally calling at Shanghai.

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SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through tickets can be obtained for Canton and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.

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All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

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THE MOST
MODERN
CARS IN
TOWN.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

"LAZARITE"



The film that everybody is
talking about.

**"SHOULDER
ARMS."**

COMMENCING

THURSDAY,

AT THE

VICTORIA.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Owing to the unprecedented demand
for further performances of

"PINKIE & THE FAIRIES"

there will be a

FINAL MATINEE

on Wednesday, 2nd April, at 4.30 p.m.

As an anonymous gentleman has purchased the whole of
the Lower part of the Theatre for the benefit of
children, only the Dress Circle will be Available.

PRICE: ... DRESS CIRCLE ... \$3.00

CHILDREN HALF-PRICE

Booking will open at MOUTRIE'S
on SATURDAY, 29th inst.

NOTICE.

WANTED.

WANTED.—Offices in Central
position by a large mar-
cantile firm on long lease. Reply
to Box 127 c/o "Hongkong
Telegraph".

THE KOREAN DISTURBANCES.

MORE SANGUINARY COLLISIONS.

The *Mainichi* says that out of
upwards of 800 Korean students
in Tokyo 600 are students of the
various universities, while about
180 attend the middle schools.
The university students have been
absenting themselves from their
studies for some time, but the
middle school boys have kept
steadily on. As a result of meet-
ings they have secretly been hold-
ing of late these 180 students ceas-
ed to attend school on the 15th
instant, and it is said that they
have agreed to return to Korea
by the 5th proximo.

The situation in Korea con-
tinues to cause disquiet at
some places. At Pusan, in
Hamkyongnamdo, a mob of 1,000
adherents of the Heavenly Path
collected on the 14th instant.
They intruded into the premises
of the local office of the Gen-
darmarie and tried to carry off
the arms. The gendarmes fired
at the crowd, with the result that
six rioters were either killed or
wounded. On the 14th instant
Kongju, in Chyngchoungnamdo,
made a violent attack upon the
local police station, resulting in
the arrest of five rioters by the
police.

On the 14th instant at Chunju,
in Challaupkto, a serious conflict
occurred between a mob of about
1,000 and a large number of
Japanese navvies who were
engaged on road construction
work. The disturbance was
pacified by the police, gendarmes
and ex-soldiers, who combined
their efforts to restore order.
Eighty-one arrests of Koreans
were effected on the occasion.
Apparently none of the Japanese
were arrested.

According to a Seoul dispatch
to the *Mainichi*, up to the 14th
instant 6 gendarmes were killed
and 6 others were injured. All of
these fatalities occurred in
Pyungannamdo. Among the
police, 7 are reported injured.

BLOODSHED IN SEOUL.
It is reported in a Seoul dispatch
to the *Mainichi* that on the 14th
instant at 11 a.m. a mob of 5,000
attacked the local office of the
Gendarmarie. They were fired
upon and some casualties resulted.

On the 17th instant, a con-
ference was held at the Honcho
Police Station in Seoul between
the judicial and police authorities,
as the result of which three public
prosecutors, four police inspec-
tors, and some 20 constables re-
paired to a hospital under the
management of a person of certain
nationality in front of Nandaimon
(Great South Gate) station
(evidently the Severance Hospital)
and conducted a strict domiciliary
search on the premises. Another
party of judicial and police
officials visited the Korean streets
on the Kyungsung and made
domiciliary search on the premises
of several ringleaders. In-
flammatory manifestoes are still
being distributed among the
Koreans.

COMPANY MEETING.

CHINA BORNEO CO., LTD.

The sixteenth yearly meeting
of the shareholders of the China
Borneo Co., Ltd., was held this
morning at the offices of Messrs.
Gibb, Livingston and Co. (agents)
when there were present Mr. W.
G. Darby (Chairman), Sir Paul
Chater, Messrs. A. O. Lang, and
A. E. Griffin (Directors) H.W.B.
Kennett (secretary), E. M.
Raymond, O. I. Ellis, O. Baptista,
L. Y. Po, L. W. Sang, M. S.
Northcote, T. E. Pearce, A. W.
Smith and A.H.M. de Silva.

The Chairman said:—Gentle-
men,—With your consent we will
take the report and accounts,
together with the auditor's certi-
ficate, as read. I think that you
will agree that the figures we
are able to place before you on
this occasion are satisfactory and
it is a source of great relief and
gratification to us that after all
the difficulties and anxieties of
the last four years the termina-
tion of hostilities should find us
in such a sound financial
position. Our cash and liquid
assets amounted at the end of
the year to over \$300,000.00, or
more than half of the capital of the
Company. Our outstandings
under the heading of sundry
debtors show an increase of some
\$30,000.00, but they are all
quite sound and a considerable
proportion of them has been
collected since the accounts were
closed. Our stocks of timber
and material, notwithstanding
the high cost of production, show
a decrease of approximately
\$35,000.00, and have been
valued on a very conservative
basis. During the year, we
have inaugurated a Provident
Fund for our staff, and I feel sure
that no shareholder will grudge
the moderate contribution for
which the Company will be
liable in order to encourage our
employees to make some
provision for the future. I trust
shareholders will approve of the
manner in which we propose to
allocate our profits. It has
always been the policy of this
Company—and considering the
nature of its operations, I
think it has been a wise
policy—to be conservative in the
payment of dividends, and the
special bonus which we propose
to distribute on this occasion is
in the nature of a windfall and
represents the Company's share in
some salvage operations in which
we were interested some two
years ago and which has since
been paid. The establishment of
a Fund for Replacements and
Renewals does not imply any
existing need for further deprecia-
tion of our properties. It is
only intended as a provision for
any extraordinary repairs and
renewals which may become
necessary from time to time and
which our auditor considers
cannot properly be charged to
capital. Gentlemen, during the
past four years our programme
for the extension of the Company's
business has necessarily been at
a standstill and fresh markets,
which gave good promise of
successful development, have
been lost to us for the time
being, but now that the
war is happily over we
hope to make up for lost time
and we propose to devote our
cash resources to the acquisition
of the most modern and up to
date machinery for logging and
converting timber. We anticipate
that by these means we shall
considerably increase our output
and lower our cost of production,
which is now much higher than
it was before the war and
is likely to remain so. As regards
our prospects for the immediate
future I would warn shareholders
that they must not reckon on
any continuance of the exceptional
prosperity enjoyed by the
Company during the last year
which was due to very unusual
circumstances which are not
likely to recur. On the other
hand, we get a great number of
reports which reach us that as
soon as things settle down
there will be a keen demand for
timber throughout the world,
and provided the requisite
tonnage is obtainable there is
reason to hope that we shall be
able to dispose of output to good
advantage. Before formally pro-
posing the adoption of the report
and accounts I shall be pleased
to answer any questions con-
nected

ed with them which shareholders
may desire to ask.

Mr. T. E. Pearce, in seconding
the report and accounts, said he
was sure shareholders would be
interested in the remarks that had
fallen from the lips of the Chair-
man, and was also sure that they
would be satisfied at the report
and gratified at the return which
has been obtained this year.
Shareholders would also be
pleased, he said, to learn that
provision for a provident fund
for the employees had been made.
The report and accounts were
unanimously adopted.

On the proposal of Mr. M. S.
Northcote, seconded by Mr. O. I.
Ellis and unanimously agreed to,
Mr. A. O. Lang was re-elected a
Director of the Company.

Mr. C. Bernard Brown was
elected auditor for the ensuing
year at a remuneration of \$150
on the proposition of Mr. Baptista,
seconded by Mr. Kennett.

The Chairman announced that
dividend warrants were now
ready and could be had at the
office of the Company.

LADY BADEN-POWELL'S FATHER.

HIS DEATH PRESUMED.

London, Feb. 1.—To presume
the death of Mr. Harold Soames,
a wealthy man, who disappeared
mysteriously from Bournemouth
on Boxing Day, was what Mr.
Justice Coleridge was asked to
do in the Probate Court this week.
Not often is a drama so full of
pathos unfolded in the courts.

Behind him he left touching
letters of farewell, intimating his
intention of drowning himself,
and expressing a fervent hope
that the sea would not give up
its dead. Seemingly, that dying
wish has been fulfilled.

Mr. Soames was father of Lady
Baden-Powell, and formerly lived
at Gray Rigg, Parkstone. He
was staying, said counsel who
made the application, at Bourne-
mouth with his wife, with whom
he lived on the most affectionate
terms. He was sixty-three years
of age, and had been suffering
from nervous depression and
dyspepsia. Mrs. Soames herself
was confined to her room.

Christmas Day was the last
time he was seen. At four o'clock
in the afternoon he went to see
his wife, having previously pre-
pared his will, the signature to
which was witnessed by a maid.

TRUST IN INFINITE MERCY.

Documents left behind showed
only too plainly that he had
drowned himself. He left letters
for his son, Captain Soames, and
his daughters, Mrs. Davidson
and Lady Baden-Powell. His
estate was worth £250,000.

One of the letters was to the
maid, Eva Gale, and read:—

For Eva.—Do not alarm Mrs.
Soames if I have gone. It is only
that as opiates can no longer give
me sleep. I am mad with in-
somnia. I can no longer be of
any use to anybody.—H. S.

Good-bye all. Sleeping draughts
no good. I must try to drown.
Return library books, as I have
too many out, and the librarian
might suffer.

In another letter he wrote:—

For my dear Wife.—In
case I can no longer bear
the misery of years of
nervous dyspepsia and insomnia
I have to take my life when my
endurance fails. I leave this
word of love to you (with my
will) to thank you for all you
have been to me in our life
together, and to ask forgiveness
for all my short-comings.

I have borne all my miseries
as long as I felt I could be of
any help to you dearest and best,
but now I feel that I am only a
hindrance, as each year I only
sink into deeper ill-health and
melancholy.

I am leaving nearly everything
to you, and I know you will dis-
pose of it justly. I trust my
body may not be found to horrify
you, but if it is, let it be buried
in the simplest grave. It needs
no words, but welcome your affec-
tionate thoughts. Pitiful, but I
have faith the Infinite Mercy will
grant me rest.

I hope to succeed in drowning
myself, so as to be no longer a
burden to my beloved, and I trust the sea
will not give up its dead.

TO-DAY'S SHARE QUOTATIONS.

S.—SELLERS; B.—BUYERS;
N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.

H. K. & S. Banks n. \$750

MARINE INSURANCES.

Cantons b. \$410
North Chinas b. 1.22 1/2
Unions n. \$1010
Yongtze n. \$315
Far Easterns n. 2.25

FIRE INSURANCES.

China Fires s. \$175
H. K. Fires b. \$355

SHIPPING.

Douglases s. 91
Steamboats n. 23 1/2
Indos (Pref.) b. \$32
Indos (Def.) s. \$153
Shells b. 160/-
Ferries b. \$35

REFINERIES.

Sugars s. \$119 1/2
Malabars b. \$35 1/2

MINING.

Kailans n. 50/-
Langkats s. \$24
Rambas b. 2
Tromps b. 37 1/2
Urals n. 40/-

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &C.

H. K. Wharves b. \$120 s. 18/ 20
K. Docks b. \$160 s. 6/ 16 1/2
Shai Docks b. \$30
N. Engineerings b. \$24 1/2

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.

Centrals b. \$106
H. K. Hotels b. \$91 s. 98
Land Invest. b. \$1 5/4
H. H. Eys Est. b. \$7 1/2
K'loon Lands b. \$34
L. Reclamations b. \$175
West Points b. \$69

COTTON MILL.

Ewos b. \$230
Kung Yiks b. \$21 1/2
Lau Kung Mows n. \$154
Orientals n. \$70
Shai Cottons b. \$177
Shaitzspoons b. & s. \$10.60

MISCELLANEOUS.

Green Islands n. \$8
C. Light & P. b. on rights \$5 1/2
Borneos n. \$15
Providents n. \$8 1/2
Dairy Farms n. \$28 1/2
H. K. Electric b. \$76 1/2
Macao Electric n. \$33 1/2
Ropes b. \$30 1/2
Trams, Low Level b. \$7 1/2 s. 8
Trams, Peak, old b. \$7.40
Trams, Peak, new b. cts. 75
Laundries n. \$4.60
Steel Foundries n. \$12
U. Waterboats b. \$13 1/2
Watsons b. \$6.15
Wm. Powells b. \$11 1/2
Wiseman's n. \$28

Hongkong, March 26, 1919.

LAST THOUGHTS OF HIS WIFE.

There was also, said counsel, a
diary, and in one entry, dated
Nov. 10, he had written:—

I seem to have reached the
limit of my endurance. When
from nervous dyspepsia days are
dreariness and nights sheer horror
waiting for dawn, when one's
mental effort breaks before
bodily tortures, and when one
realises one is no longer any use
to others, one is justified in
ending a life that is so hopeless.

I hung on as long as I felt I
could be any help to my dear
wife in the sad ills that have
overtaken her, and the suffering
she has borne so patiently. But
my int. sympathy has broken
me in my longing to assuage her
trouble, so in vain.

For one's impotence to help
—if only one could bear
some for her, if only one
could feel that to sacrifice
one's poor life would really help—
aggravates one's sadness, and I
know only too well that we live
alone and suffer alone.

And now that my nerve and
digestion and whole body have
gone to pieces, I am only a
hindrance, and I think now she
is better without me.

Mr. Justice Coleridge gave
leave to examine the diary as from
Dec. 26, 1918.

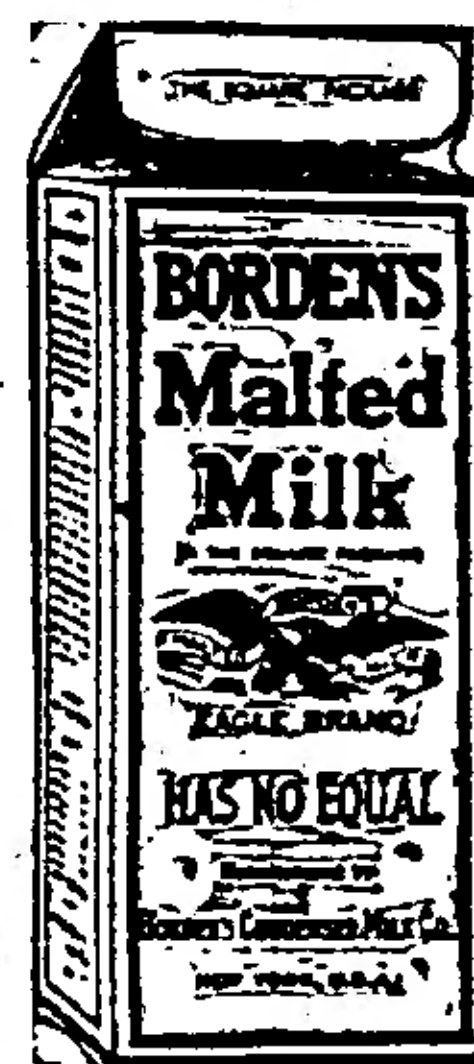
NOTICES.

永 安 有 限 公 司
THE
WING ON CO., LTD.
HONGKONG.
UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS.
Most up-to-date and Cheapest House
in Hongkong.
Prompt attention given to Orders.

JUST ARRIVED.

Large Assortment of
Lace Works, Embroideries, Drawn Thread Works,
comprising
Collars, Blouses, Handkerchiefs, Table & Bed Covers, etc.,
Filet & other Hand-made Laces.
Exquisite modern designs, Excellent quality,
Moderate prices.
INSPECTION CORDIALLY INVITED.
SWATOW DRAWN WORK CO.,
No. 14, DES VOEUX ROAD, CENTRAL.

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CLEAN

PURE

HEALTHFUL

NOURISHING

HAS NO EQUAL

It is a perfected milk Food, wholesome and delicious.
Prepared by the most improved process whereby all
the nutritive elements of the richest cows milk and
strengthening cereals are scientifically combined.

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VICTORIA DISPENSARY COLONIAL DISPENSARY
AND
ALL LEADING PROVISION SHOPS.
CONNELL BROS. CO., Agents.

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The latest model, "Chandler," "Hudson" and "Oakland" cars,
for hire.
Theatre parties. Pleasure trips.
Shopping etc. at moderate charges.
Our cars are only driven by experienced drivers, so that all
clients are sure of every safety and comfort.
Large stocks of spare parts and children's "Skudders" on sale.
Motor car, launch and cycle repairing done daily.
Call and inspect.

THE HONGKONG SCHOOL OF MOTORING.

APPLICATIONS FROM STUDENTS ARE
NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

The SCHOOL has accommodation for 200 PUPILS, the
syllabus including courses for MECHANICS
and DRIVING.

SPECIAL FACILITIES are offered to persons desirous
of becoming CHAUFFEURS and not at the
moment having means at their disposal for
their course.

Works and school Shaukiwan. Offices: 4 Queen's Road Central.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Important Questions Raised in Chairman's Speech.

A special extraordinary meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday at the Chamber of Commerce Room, Chartered Bank Building, when the following resolution was proposed:—

"That Clause VI of the Rules and Regulations of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce should be amended to read as follows:—

"The Committee shall consist of ten Members, all of whom shall be British or Representatives of British Firms, to be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Chamber, and they shall hold Office for one year. Vacancies occurring during the year shall be filled up by the Committee."

The Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak presided and those sitting at the Committee table were Hon. Mr. D. Landale, Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell, Messrs. C. Montague Ede, C. S. Gubbay, A. O. Lang, E. Y. D. Parr, J. A. Plummer, Y. J. Stubb, G. M. Young and H. G. Brett, the newly appointed Commercial Attaché for Hongkong and South China.

The following firms were represented:

Messrs. Arculli Bros., Mr. O. El Arculli, Messrs. Bank Line Ltd., Mr. W. G. Goggin, Messrs. Bradley and Co., Ltd., Mr. J. A. Plummer, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, Messrs. G. M. Young, R. Ross Thomson, Messrs. Carmichael and Clark, Mr. J. B. Thomson, Messrs. Cawsey Paltanjee and Co., Mr. R. B. Cooper, Messrs. China and Japan Telephone and Electric Co., Ltd., Mr. S. H. Bennett, Messrs. China Borneo Co., Ltd., Mr. H. G. Darby, Messrs. China Mutual Life Insurance Co., Ltd., Mr. B. W. Tape, Messrs. Connell Bros. Co., Mr. W. M. Routh, Messrs. Carvalho and Co., Mr. Arthur Carvalho, Messrs. S. J. David and Co., Ltd., Messrs. A. David and E. S. Abraham, Messrs. Dodwell and Co., Ltd., Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell, Messrs. Donnelly and Whyte, Mr. D. E. Donnelly, Messrs. Eastern Extension Australasia and China Tele. Co., Mr. J. K. Gibson, Messrs. Fung Tan, Wai Tak Leung, Fire Insurance Association of Hongkong, Mr. D. K. Blair, Messrs. Walter Ford and Co., Mr. J. M. Y. Batalha, Messrs. Gibb Livingston and Co., Mr. A. O. Lang, Messrs. Gilman and Co., Ltd., Mr. W. L. Pattenden, Messrs. A. and S. Hancock, Mr. H. Hancock, Messrs. W. A. Hannibal and Co., Mr. J. Robertson, Messrs. Holland China Trading Co., Mr. A. W. van Andel, Messrs. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd., Mr. J. Arnold, Messrs. Hongkong and China Gas Co., Ltd., Mr. G. P. Curry, Messrs. Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd., Mr. F. Graham, Messrs. Hongkong Mercantile Co., Ltd., Mr. C. MacKenzie, Messrs. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Mr. N. J. Stubb, Messrs. Hongkong Tramway Co., Ltd., Mr. W. E. Roberts, Messrs. J. D. Hutchinson and Co., Mr. T. E. Pearce, Messrs. Hastings, Hodge and Co., Mr. L. E. S. Hodge, Messrs. Hogg, Karanjia and Co., Ltd., Mr. K. D. Mistry, Messrs. International Banking Corporation, Mr. G. Hogg, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., Hon. Mr. D. Landale, Messrs. Kailash Mining Administration, Mr. J. H. C. Goodban, Messrs. Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co., Ltd., Mr. J. de B. Lancaster, Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Mathews, Mr. E. A. M. Williams, Messrs. Mustard and Co., Mr. J. H. Scott, Messrs. Moller and Co., Ltd., Mr. Williamson, Messrs. Macdonald and Co., Mr. D. Macdonald, Messrs. New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd., Mr. J. H. Brister, Messrs. North West Trading Co., Mr. E. C. Dingman, Messrs. Newall and Claxton, Mr. A. A. Claxton, Messrs. Patell and Co., Mr. J. M. Patell, Messrs. Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., Mr. E. V. D. Parr, Messrs. Reiss and Co., Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Messrs. Robertson, Wilson and Co., Mr. G. H. Wilson, Messrs. Alex. Ross and Co., Mr. D. K. Moss, Messrs. J. M. de Rocha and Co., Mr. J. M. de Rocha, Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co., Mr. C. S. Gubbay, Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co., Mr. H. F. Campbell, Messrs. H. Skott and Co., Mr. G. E. Wetton, Messrs. Standard Oil Co. of New York, Mr.

W. B. Walker, Messrs. Stewart Bros., Mr. Evan Ormiston, Messrs. H. Stephens and Co., Mr. H. Stephens, Messrs. The Texas Company, Mr. J. H. Brister, Mr. F. P. Talati, Mr. M. P. Talati, Messrs. Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., Mr. C. Montagu Ede, Messrs. Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., Mr. G. Morton Smith, Messrs. Union Trading Co., Messrs. S. M. Churn and J. C. Barretto, Messrs. Harry Wickling and Co., Mr. A. Forbes, Messrs. Yuen Hop Hong, Mr. S. H. Leung, Messrs. A. H. Cartwright and G. C. Moxon.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the special extraordinary meeting, the Chairman said that the resolution proposed to make a minor alteration to the Chamber of Commerce rules which should make for the wider working of the Chamber as a whole. With these few words he begged to move the resolution.

Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell seconded. Mr. Donnelly suggested that the resolution should read "British and representatives of British firms."

The Chairman: The point you raise was considered.

Mr. Cartwright: May I ask how the rule reads?

The Secretary read the rule: ten British members to be elected at the annual general meeting, vacancies occurring to be filled by the Committee.

The Chairman said he might explain what was suggested. It had been found in practical working that the original rule in the early days of the war which provided for an entirely British Committee to control the Chamber was necessary because unless this was guaranteed confidential correspondence from the Foreign Office could not be sent to it. It had also been found in practical working. It was conceivable, as had been the case, that the head of at least one big British concern was not a British subject to-day and it would be weakening to the Chamber not to have a representative of that firm on the Committee and they therefore decided to widen the rule so that it should not apply arbitrarily to British members but to British firms.

The motion was carried.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Secretary then read the notice convening the annual meeting, following which,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, The reports and accounts having been in your hands for some days I propose to follow the usual custom and take them as read. I rejoice in being able to address you with the blessings of Peace descending upon us after nearly five years of terrible conflict which have ended at last in the complete defeat of our common enemies. It has again proved an exceedingly arduous year's work and I doubt, even after carefully studying the voluminous report presented, if the general members of the Chamber will realise the amount of time and devotion which your Committee has cheerfully given and shown throughout the year, to the protection and development of British trading interests in this Colony and South China. In this connection I should like to pay a well-earned tribute to the very efficient labours of our Secretarial staff which has carried on so successfully under war conditions during a heavier year than ever before. It is fitting that I should first refer to the retirement of the Governor, H. E. Sir Henry May, K.C.M.G., whose long and honourable services to this Colony were so eloquently referred to in a recent Legislative Council Meeting and which I am sure we shall all remember for long to come. We have learnt with profound regret of his illness and sincerely hope he will soon be completely restored to health. A telegram conveying these sentiments was despatched to Sir Henry May a few days ago. We have shared his anxiety in the illness of his daughter and desire to extend both to Sir Henry and Lady May our sincerest good wishes for the future. I desire also to record our keen appreciation of the valuable and ready assistance so frequently given during the past

JOINING UP.

REFUND OF EXPENSES.

We have been asked to give publicity to the following Army Order:—

Refunds to individuals of the expenses incurred by them in proceeding from abroad, after the outbreak of War, to join the British Army.—A refund of the locomotive expenses, exclusive of charges for baggage, actually paid by them to the port of disembarkation in the United Kingdom not exceeding the cost of a direct journey by the most economical route in the grade of accommodation appropriate to the rank in which they joined the British Army, will, subject to the conditions laid down in the succeeding paragraphs of this Army Order, be granted to individuals who after the outbreak of War proceeded from South Africa, including Rhodesia, and embarked on or before 15th February, 1916, or from other places abroad and embarked on or before 30th September, 1916, provided that within two months of the date of their arrival in the United Kingdom they applied to the War Office or to the Headquarters in the United Kingdom of Colonial Contingents, or their respective High Commissioners, or to a Territorial Force Association for a commission, or to a recognised recruiting officer for enlistment.

The reason for these dates is that in order to make these Regulations as widely known as possible announcements were made in the South African Press at the end of January, 1916, and in the Press in other parts of the world in the middle of September, 1916, to the effect that persons proceeding from abroad on their own initiative would have no claim to a repayment of their expenses.

All claims made under the terms of this Army Order should be fully detailed on Army Form O 1771, should show the dates of the different stages of the journey, and should be supported by a receipt for the passage money claimed, or if this is not now available, by a certificate from the Shipping Company as to the amount paid.

The following particulars will be required:—

(1) Date of embarkation for the United Kingdom, and (if possible) name of vessel.

(2) Date of arrival in the United Kingdom.

(3) Date of Commission or Enlistment.

(4) If a Commission was not obtained or enlistment made within two months of the date of arrival in the United Kingdom, proof that application was made to a recognised authority as defined in this Army Order within the prescribed period must be furnished in support of the claim.

(5) Actual amount claimed.

(6) Amount of rebate, if any, allowed by the Shipping Company.

(7) Whether any previous application has been made, or previous correspondence has taken place. If so, full particulars should be given, the reference number being, if possible, stated.

Each item of the cost of the journey in respect of which a claim is made must be shown separately, e.g. the actual cost of rail fare, of steamship ticket, etc., and the claim should be supported by a certificate in the following terms:—

"I certify that (a) each item of the attached claim indicates the extent and nature of the service for which the claim is made, i.e. all items, e.g. cost of Railway Ticket (exclusive of excess baggage charges) or cab fares, sleeping accommodation, cost of food or travelling allowance have been detailed separately;

(b) Except in the case of travelling allowances I have actually expended the amount claimed on each item as shown, and have deducted any rebates received;

(c) In the case of travelling allowance the dates for which this is claimed have been accurately stated; and I understand that if this statement which I am now signing is not substantially correct I am liable to forfeit the whole or such portion of the claim as may be decided by superior authority."

In cases in which a commission was not obtained or enlistment made within two months of the date of arrival in the United Kingdom, the onus of proof that application for a commission or for enlistment was made within that period to the appropriate authority rests on the applicant, and evidence must be furnished by him.

Refunds will not be granted in cases in which the expenses of locomotion were borne by employers, patriotic associations, or similar bodies.

No applications will be considered which are not wholly covered by the terms of this Army Order, or which are not submitted within one year from the date of its issue. In the case of those who are prisoners of war the time limit of a year may be relaxed, each case being considered on its merits.

Claims of serving officers should be submitted through the usual military channels and claims of ex-officers direct to the War Office.

Claims of other ranks serving at home should be forwarded by the Officer Commanding to the appropriate Officer i/c Records. In view, however, of the possibility of claims being lost or going astray, and in order that there may be a record that application has been made within the prescribed period, the following procedure will be adopted:—

(i) In the case of soldiers serving with Expeditionary Forces, i/c of the appropriate Records Section, ord. Echelon. The latter will transmit the claim to the Officer i/c Records at Home, at the same time recording in Part II Orders the date the claim was made and transmitted.

(ii) In the case of soldiers serving in garrisons overseas, the Officer Commanding Unit will submit the claim direct to the Officer i/c Records and will make similar record as in (i) in Part II Orders.

Claims of other ranks who have been discharged should be submitted direct to the appropriate Officer i/c Records.

Claims of individuals with professional or technical qualifications who proceed from abroad after the outbreak of war, for the purpose of obtaining a commission in a professional corps, e.g. Royal Army Medical Corps, Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Engineers, and were granted such commissions in these Corps either direct or through a cadet battalion or Officers' Training Corps, will for the present continue to be dealt with on their merits under the conditions published from time to time in local routine and Command Orders, irrespective of the date on which they embarked.

LONDON DOCTORS.

TRADE UNION DISCUSSED.

There were stormy scenes at a mass meeting of doctors in Wigmore Hall on February 2. The meeting was called to discuss the formation of a body to safeguard the interests of the medical profession, especially with regard to the programme of the new Ministry of Health.

In proposing a resolution that a new body be formed adequately representative of the general practitioner, Dr. T. V. Greenyer said that what was wanted was a body that would ensure that doctors were no longer pawns in the Government game. (Hear, hear.)

After the resolution had been seconded Dr. Fothergill appealed for support of the B.M.A., and contended that all the trouble in the past—notably where the National Insurance Act was concerned—had been caused by "the scum of the profession."

This brought up Capt. Guest, in a great state of indignation, who protested that by "scum" Dr. Fothergill meant "the poor" of the profession, and that the only way to ensure a decent living wage for every doctor was to form a trade union on the same lines as the powerful organisations of Labour. (Applause and disorder.)

Sir Watson Cheyne, M.P., tried to pour oil on the troubled waters, but his remark that "trade unionism will not go down at all" caused further uproar.

After the resolution to form a new body had been carried by 182 votes to 93, Dr. Angus, in a fiery speech, proposed an amendment to the effect that no body not registered as a trade union could adequately safeguard the interests of medical profession.

"You must line up," he said, "with the other great industries of the country and form a trade union of your own. We must have a union of doctors before which the Government of the country will cringe, and it cringes before the other unions."

A Voice: Are we prepared to go to the length of a strike? (Cries of "Yes!" and uproar.)

The amendment was put and declared lost by 73 votes to 71. Cries of "Recount!" followed. The chairman, Dr. Fielding Old, appealed for order, but the cries continued, and in a few minutes, amid great tumult, the chairman rose and the meeting broke up.

THEY SAY THAT—

Cortin, who attempted to assassinate Clemenceau, will dance a reel on thin air for his crime.—His final statement will be the last yarn he will spin.

Joe King, the pacifist M.P. nuisance, now that Germany is finally defeated, will probably try to exonerate his conduct during the war by saying he was only Joe-king.

There are other kinds of jams that soldiers swear about than plum and apple.—Ask a machine gunner.

Now the excitement of raids is a thing of the past, shooting parties are being organised for hare-raids in the game preserves at Home.—Well, it's all in the game.

In Brisbane, in order to hide the hideous masks they are compelled to wear, ladies are wearing Yash-mak veils.—However, it is of no avail, for they simply look odd, so probably the old order of things will eventually prevail.

Under those conditions, if the epidemic reaches Hongkong, and we take similar precautions, our ladies will determine to "mask" both.

The modern flapper is chock full of chocolate and sin-emas.

A Plymouth lady, in ringing up a bookseller's to order a special p.c. to be sent to her, got the wrong telephone number and was switched on to the police station. So they sent her a policeman.—I should think the bobbie saw red and the lady blue.

A gentleman going home late from his club in an expensive state of intoxication was met in the doorway by his wife, who sniffed suspiciously. "What have you been drinking?" she demanded. "Only a ton-hic, m'dear," was the reply.

The most awkward situation for a man to be in is when he meets two girls (both of whom he has promised to marry) at the same ball. It is then that he murmurs to himself the old true phrase: "How happy could I be with either were I other dear charmer away."—He would be greatly relieved, no doubt, if some other fellow came to one of them to charm her away.

A little boy went to a Sunday school picnic up the river on the tug "Euralia." In the bay he was very sea-sick and was chaffed by his schoolmaster. On his return he was stealthily making his way home to avoid caustic comment of other boys when the curate accosted him and began, "And so, my little man, you were sea-sick on the boat."—"Euralia," growled the little boy, with emphasis on the "li."

The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.—The wife doesn't think so when she makes hubby rock the cradle.

Rejoys that never felt a wound.—And yet wounded Tommies have been known to jest a little bit.

ALIEN LANDOWNERSHIP IN AMERICA.

SENATOR PREDICTS RACIAL PROBLEM.

San Francisco, March 13.—It appears that the Anti-Japanese Landownership Bill, (to give it its Japanese name) which passed the Lower House of the Colorado Legislature on February 26th, will be shelved by the Committee of the Upper House.

Senator Pheelan, back from California, in the course of last week made some critical reference to the Japanese "picture brides" as a source of future evils in California, and he published a statement on the 13th instant alleging that many Japanese in Mexico are making their way into California across the frontier in defiance of the Gentlemen's Agreement. He says that if this state of things continues for the next twenty years California will be confronted with a serious racial crisis. From this point of view, the Senator expatiates upon the necessity of enacting a law stricter than the one now in force against Japanese landownership and leasehold.

The law suit instituted by Mr. Ozawa Takao claiming the right of naturalisation, which is pending in the Supreme Court of America, will not be heard for the time being, a decision to this effect having been reached on the suggestion of the American Government.

NOTICE.

Maison Lily

Just received an assortment

New Shaw Hats.

Linen, Tique, Plain

and Flowered Veils.

Stamilton Building,

Hongkong.

THEATRE ROYAL HONGKONG.

A. D. C.

IN THE MUSICAL PLAY

"PINKIE & THE FAIRIES"

FOR GROWN UPS AND CHILDREN

by W. Graham Robertson,

Music by Frederick Norton.

WITH FULL ORCHESTRA, CHORUS AND BALLET
OVER 60 PERFORMERS



Fifth Performance To-day (Wednesday), March 26th, at 4.30 p.m. Matinee.

SPECIAL MATINEE

Thursday, 27th March, at 4.30 p.m.

FINAL PERFORMANCE

Saturday, 29th March, at 4.30 p.m.

Prices: ... \$3, \$2 & \$1.

Children half price to Matinee.

BOOKING AT MOUTRIE'S.

LIBERTY MALT BEVERAGE.

San Miguel's Special Brew, Guaranteed to be non-alcoholic but tastes and looks like Beer. It Creates an Appetite, and Ensures Good Digestion. Recommended for Children, Women, and the aged.

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The oldest and one of the best Brandy Houses in the Trade.

SOLD BY ALL DEALERS.

Sole Agents for China

H. RUTTONJEE & SON.

16 QUEEN'S ROAD

(Continued on Page 10.)

HONGKONG GENERAL
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Continued from Page 9.)

year by the Colonial Secretary (the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G.) at present Administering the Government, the Acting Colonial Secretary (The Hon. Mr. Fletcher), the Attorney-General (The Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, C.M.G.), the Superintendent of Imports and Exports (Mr. D. W. Tratman), the Acting Harbour Master (Commander C. W. Beckwith, R.N.), whom, upon the retirement of Commander B. Taylor, R.N., we should like to see confirmed in the appointment which he has filled for several years now to the entire satisfaction of the shipping community, and the Government officials as a whole, who have laboured with us to make essential War restrictions less irksome and generally "roll the wheels" of the Colony's trade. There has been more than one occasion during the past year when the assistance rendered by the Government, on the appeal of your Chairman or Committee, has prevented serious injury to the essential trades of Hongkong and South China. You will, I am sure, be delighted to hear that the Home Government has appointed a Commercial Attaché to Hongkong and South China with headquarters here, Mr. J. H. Brett, a Consular Official with a distinguished record in China, whom we recently had the pleasure of welcoming amongst us and who is here this afternoon. Your Committee invited him to become an honorary member of the Committee, which I am sure will have your cordial approval and on his behalf I bespeak your sympathetic assistance and consideration, whilst on his side, I am sure he is only too anxious to promote and assist British interests in this part of China and will welcome suggestions from you to this end.

AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

I think I am right in stating that never before have the various Chambers of Commerce in China worked in such close co-operation in connection with matters of common interest to all merchants in China and Hongkong. I do not know that it would be practicable but I suggest that an annual conference at some central Port, of representatives from all British and General Chambers of Commerce in the Far East would prove of inestimable value to trade and might have far-reaching results. In these days more than ever before, we need co-operation and if the war has taught us anything, it has surely taught us that "Unity is strength" in all cases where representation to Home Governments or authorities is called for.

TON FOR TON POLICY

I trust you will bear with me, whilst, for a few moments, I now briefly review the more important subjects that have been dealt with during the past year. In trading matters perhaps none has been more important than the advocacy of the ton for ton policy in which the Chamber joined wholeheartedly, with the other British Chambers, in the telegraphic demands to our Home Government that this should form one of the essential conditions of peace and which I am glad to say there is good reason to hope will come to pass. During the year, all shipping registered here was requisitioned by the Hongkong Government, thus placing Hongkong tonnage on the same basis as home tonnage. A very large sum must have been contributed to the Government exchequer by this means and we await the published figures with great interest.

STORM SIGNAL CODES

You will no doubt have read with keen interest the correspondence now published concerning the storm signal codes. The unfortunate differences between the Hongkong and Sincawei Observatories still remain unadjusted and you will, I am sure, heartily endorse the hope that a policy of "give and take" may yet prevail between the Northern Observatory and ours, so that a uniform code may be adopted for the whole

of the China Coast. Your Committee are strongly of the opinion that better results would be obtained, all round, if the Observatory here were made a part of the harbour organization.

DEPORTATION OF GERMANS AND AUSTRILIANS

One more step towards cleansing the Far East from the loathsome intrigues of our enemies has at last been taken by the deportation of Germans and Austrians from China to Germany and in the interests of peace it is to be hoped that Japan will shortly take similar action. Through the cunning manoeuvring of our adversaries some few have been left in China on the plea that they are engaged upon works of charity, whilst experience has abundantly proved that even their Priests and Missionaries have prostituted their sacred calling to circulate the vilest calumnies against us, indeed indisputable evidence has recently come into our possession which proves that very large sums of money were paid by the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank to the Berlin and Basel Missions and manifestly used by them for pernicious propaganda work. It is to be sincerely hoped that the powerful protest made against their remaining in China at the recent public meeting held in Shanghai will secure their removal too, indeed the prevailing unrest in China is not likely to subside until the is rid of them all. Should Japan exclude them also, their only remaining haunts will be Java and Sumatra where the presence of considerable numbers will doubtless lead to further intrigues threatening the peace of this part of the world.

THE SERVICE DOLLAR

It is a pleasure to be able to report that our further protests in connection with the service dollar rate of exchange for the Garrison have at last met with success as far as the European troops go, though the same grievance in connection with the Indian regiments still remains to be adjusted and has been submitted to the Authorities. The Navy in these waters and on shore have also received similar compensation to the Garrison though hardly upon equal terms.

TELEGRAPHIC DELAYS

Your Committee has again and again taken up the subject of telegraphic delays, both between Great Britain and the United States of America. With America the service has greatly improved and is now almost normal, but between England and here the delay is worse to-day than at any period during the war. The Cable Companies protest that they are doing everything possible to bring their service back to normal conditions and remind us that the War has resulted in the total closing down of the Indo-European line through Germany and Russia to China and Japan which in pre-war days, though in no way under their control, whenever the direct cables were either blocked or congested, materially aided in the prompt despatch of messages. Beyond this they contend that heavy Government despatches—to which priority must be given—the scourge of the influenza epidemic which laid low a great number of their staff, and the break-down of the Mediterranean cables, which a succession of storms has prevented repairing, are jointly responsible for the very lengthy delay, which is undoubtedly a serious handicap to trade at an extremely critical period in Far Eastern trade. Once again and more emphatically than ever before, the absolute necessity for linking up Hongkong with London by relays of powerful wireless stations for commercial purposes is illustrated and the present futile commercial station here, suitable only for communicating with ships at close range, should be substituted at the earliest moment for apparatus capable of communicating direct with Calcutta. Manila is in daily touch with New York and why not Hongkong with Calcutta and Calcutta with London? Happily a Telegraph Communication Board has been appointed with Lord Milner as Chairman, to deal with Imperial communications, including

wireless. I have already given notice of a resolution on the subject which I hope will be discussed at the next Legislative Council Meeting. Meanwhile we have urged the Government to endeavour to make arrangements with the Naval Authorities whereby their high-powered station here can be temporarily used to relieve the congestion. Whilst on the subject of delays, I may also tell you that your Committee has recently been constantly in communication with the Post Master General here on the subject of the disjoined and delayed mail service from London—part of it, at any rate, seems to have been due to the fact that the London Post Office General does not seem to have realised that the Suez route has been open—with many fast sailing boats such as the Blue Funnel Freighters—since the end of January, which would have brought the mail here weeks ahead of the Trans-Atlantic and Pacific route; this has now been remedied and mails will shortly be arriving via Suez until the Siberian route is again open and safe. Upon the recent representation of H.M. Consul General at Yunnanfu your Committee has thought it a sound investment to guarantee \$1,000 per year for five years—to which the Hongkong Government adds a like amount—for the establishment of a scholarship for the education of Yunnanese youths at the Hongkong University, and the first examination for these scholarships will take place in June. The deplorable congestion existing both on the Tientsin-Peking and Peking-Mukden Railways during the early part of the year and which has only slightly improved since, has been a serious handicap to northern trade and in the south the condition of the southern railways is little better and the sooner the whole of the railway administration in China is placed under foreign supervision similar to the Customs and the Salt Gabelle the better for China herself and the world in general. The question of the registration of partners trading under names other than their own, to counteract the growing practice here of using titles which may be, and often are, quite misleading, was taken up by your Committee with the Government and is receiving their consideration with a view to legislation. At the beginning of October last we again started under the auspices of the Chamber, an advance issue to subscribers of political and commercial cables. The support given to this venture by the members of the Chamber has been very gratifying. Other features in commercial news will be added as required and your Committee hope that your support will be continued to enable the undertaking to be carried on without loss to the Chamber. It has undoubtedly met a need which we hope will be increasingly recognised so that more subscribers may be added to the Chamber's "Daily Bulletin."

MILITARY SERVICE ORDINANCE

I come now, Gentlemen, to the vexed and much discussed question of the Military Service Ordinance involving conscription of all men of European descent below the age of forty years. I must frankly confess, that, in the light of later events, this is a matter that we now recognise should have been submitted to and discussed by a general meeting of British members of the Chamber called for the purpose. The times were abnormal and at the time and in the light of the urgent appeal from the War Office for man-power, practically at all costs, which was a reversal of the previously announced policy of the maintenance of British Trade in the Far East even at the cost of man-power, your Committee acted for the best at the time. It should be pointed out, however, that in their letter of the 16th April last to the Hongkong Government, they most emphatically intimated universal conscription of all British subjects here, with due regard to the protection of "essential economic trades" if the authorities at home still considered this neces-

sary, and from all we knew then and from the instructions given in despatches to the Consul-General in China and the Legation in Japan, this was still the case. I do not wish to enlarge upon what is a very debatable subject, but from the moment the issue was narrowed down, as we contend it was, by the telegram of the Secretary of State of the 30th May last to "men of pure European descent," it was obvious that few men could be obtained from here without serious detriment to the essential trade of the Colony since nearly all available men had long before volunteered and gone and the question of conscription, we contended, should then have been dropped. The responsibility for the unpleasant and controversy which ensued must be placed at the door of the Home Authorities who, almost in the same breath, declared the double policy of the maintenance of British trade in the Far East as being essential and the War Office call for men "at all costs" till those who could not possibly be spared on the first proclamation were so tormented by the clamorous call of duty to the Empire, in her hour of need, felt they could no longer stay. Once the decision had been made by the Government I think you will agree with me that your Committee did everything in their power to see that men who were called up from here should serve on conditions that would relieve them of immediate anxiety regarding their families and relations and which I believe were unequalled in any other part of the British Empire. Your Committee and Representative on the Legislative Council may be relied upon to press for the repeal of the Ordinance directly it becomes practicable and meanwhile everything has been done that could be, to obtain the early release of all men serving with His Majesty's forces from this Colony in which we have received the whole-hearted support of the Government here. Various attempts have been made, especially since the declaration of the armistice, by dealers here to repudiate undelivered contracts held up by War conditions and which have since arrived or are on their way. Your Committee was appealed to in two instances and emphatically upheld Ordinance No. 31 of 1917, which was specially passed to protect both Dealer and Merchant against circumstances of this nature, and will continue to do so.

CHAMBER'S SCHOOL FOR THE STUDY OF CHINESE

The last subject I desire to bring before you is that of the Chamber's School for the study of Chinese. During the past year the school, which has hitherto done splendid work, has fallen off considerably in attendance. No doubt this is largely due to depleted staffs and war conditions. The value of being able to speak Cantonese or Mandarin in these days cannot possibly be overestimated in those that are before us and on behalf of your Committee I strongly urge all Firms here to insist upon any new employee coming out from home, joining the school in order to take the fullest advantage of it and its Director, who in addition to being a distinguished Chinese scholar has a gift for imparting the knowledge of the language which none who have time to avail themselves of it should miss. In conclusion I may add, gentlemen, that I hope to leave in May for a few months in England and that anything I can do to serve you or the Chamber in connection with the London Chamber or its associated Chambers, will be most gladly undertaken if you will communicate with me through the London Chamber of Commerce. I hope also to have the pleasure of interviewing the Board of Trade and Overseas Trade Department

officials. I now beg to move the adoption of the reports and accounts as presented and after they have been seconded I shall be glad to answer any questions you may desire to put to the best of my ability.

MR. ROSS THOMSON'S SPEECH

Mr. Ross Thomson, in seconding, said: The past year's work, to which we have just listened, coupled with a perusal of this little volume, in which we find the whole field of our Committee's activities recorded in detail, must convince all of us that the labours of our Committee and especially of our energetic Chairman, have been of no light order. Speaking from a long experience of similar work elsewhere, I know that this voluntary task undertaken in the interest of the commercial community generally, is apt to prove rather a thankless one. None of us can command success: our Committee have to deal with all questions promptly as they come up, and if sometimes this action, in the light of after events, does not appear to have been so successful as some other course might have been, let us avoid carping criticism: let us remember that "we have selected what we consider to be the best and most experienced members of our body to act for us: let us remember that these men have sacrificed their own interests and leisure in devoting to our general needs the vast amount of time and work entailed by their office, and of which we have the evidence before us. We all owe a debt of gratitude to these men.

I wish particularly to support our Chairman's remarks with reference to the appointment of a British Commercial Attaché with headquarters here and to the necessity for closer co-operation between the various Chambers of Commerce in the Far East. A time of intense commercial competition is undoubtedly opening up, when the need for close co-operation of all allied interests will be most necessary; and I trust that those controlling our various trading interests will treat matters in a broad-minded spirit, keeping in mind the general interests of their allies, even a small individual sacrifice occasionally entailed. The suggestion of an annual Conference is deserving of full consideration.

With reference to the question of the Military Service Ordinance, this is one of those difficult matters that I have already referred to. I am quite satisfied that in dealing with it our committee adopted what appeared to be the best course in the peculiar circumstances of the moment, and if it subsequently did not work out as they had hoped and anticipated that was due to factors beyond their control. The matter probably did not work out to the satisfaction of any of those concerned and the sooner it is forgotten the better. (Applause.)

I would like to urge upon the Chamber that the question of uniform signals for typhoon warnings throughout the China Coast be not lost sight of. A perusal of the correspondence on the subject leads one to believe that there is no very great advantage in favor of either of the systems under discussion, and that any advantage that one may have over the other is now neutralized by the disadvantages attendant upon lack of uniformity. A little spirit of give-and-take between the responsible experts would probably lead to an adjustment of their differences, and I trust that our Committee will continue their efforts to attain such an end. (Applause.)

COMMITTEE

Mr. Forbes proposed the re-election of the following Committee:—Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Hon. Mr. D. Landale, Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell, Messrs. C. Montague Ede, C. S. Gubbay, A. O. Lang, E. V. D. Parr, J. A. Plummer, N. J. Stabb and G. M. Young.

Mr. Moss seconded and the motion was carried.

The Chairman then invited Mr. Brett, the new Commercial Attaché, to address the meeting.

COMMERCIAL ATTACHE'S SPEECH

Mr. Brett said: I do not propose to speak to you at length this evening, but as Mr. Holyoak has been kind enough to refer in very flattering terms to my appointment as Commercial Attaché for South China, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking him personally and the Chamber generally for the extreme kindness and courtesy shown me since my arrival in the Colony. I have been invited to become an honorary member of your Committee, an invitation which I accept with great pleasure. The use of the Chamber Committee room has been given me until my own offices are ready and assistance and useful advice from your Committee and from your officers, and for this I am very grateful indeed. The Department of Overseas Trade under which I hold my present appointment has been organized with the object of placing within reach of British manufacturers and shipowners and importers a more complete system of commercial intelligence regarding overseas markets. This will be a valuable help and in this and many other ways which may suggest themselves from time to time in assisting in the development of British trade. In a Colony like Hongkong whose whole life and prosperity are bound up with the interests of British trade in the Far East I know I can rely on the assistance and advice of all members of your Chamber in my endeavours to advance these objects so far as South China is concerned. For my part I need hardly say I shall welcome any opportunity that may arise to render any slight service in my power to either the Chamber generally or its members individually. I know you have other matters to discuss here so I will not detain you any longer, but merely mention that my office is on the top floor of the Post Office building and if anyone cares to call at my office and discuss any matter of interest I shall always be delighted to see them. (Applause.)

The following new members were confirmed on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell:—Messrs. P. A. Lapicque and Co., Gerin Drevard and Co., Mustard and Co., Moller and Co., Ltd., Handel maatschappij "Transmarina", The Robert Dollar Co., T. M. Gregory and Co., Carvalho and Co., Mannes and Backhouse, Ltd.

This concluded the business. At a committee meeting held subsequent to the general meeting Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell was elected Chairman of the Chamber for the ensuing year and Mr. E. V. D. Parr vice-Chairman.

AMERONGEN "DESERTER."

The *Acht Uhr Abendblatt*, which finds evidence of a greater determination than ever on the part of Entente to bring Wilhelm II. to justice, says the opinion in Government circles is that if the ex-Kaiser must appear before a court, that court must be a German one. It remarks, however, that as Wilhelm left Germany of his own accord, the Government has but few means at its disposal to oppose his eventual extradition from Holland. The ex-Kaiser, I am informed, declared to friends quite recently, his acceptance, with resignation, of the situation in which he at present finds himself owing to pressure from the Army Command, the latter having urged the necessity for his flight from his own country. He would have preferred to stay. Thus Wilhelm II., who is referred to by part of the Press as "the deserter of Amerongen," lives in exile as the victim, once again, of his advisers.

CONSIGNEES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From CALCUTTA, PENANG and SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"KWAISANG."

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence, and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 31st inst. 1919, at NOON will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined. Claims against the steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

Agents.

Hongkong, 24th March, 1919.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From UNITED KINGDOM COLOMBO, & STRAITS.

THE Motorship

"GLENGYLE"

having arrived from above ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence, and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 31st March 1919, at 5 P.M. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas, 31st March 1919, at 10 A.M. Claims against the steamer must be presented in within 30 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

Agents.

Hongkong, 24th March, 1919.

AMERICAN & MANCHURIAN LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From NEW YORK VIA PANAMA CANAL.

THE Steamship

"WALTON HALL"

having arrived, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence, and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 22nd March, 1919 will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on 20th March and 31st, at 2.30 P.M. Claims against the Steamer must be presented within 14 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

THE BANK LINE, LIMITED, Agents.

Hongkong, 14th Mar. 1919.

WYNAND
FAMOUS
ESTABLISHED



FOCKINK
LIQUEURS
1679

AS PURVEYED
TO ALL THE
ROYAL HOUSEHOLDS
A BRAND OF LIQUEURS WHICH STANDS IN REPUTATION
SOLE AGENTS FOR CHINA
HOLLAND, PACIFIC TRADING CO.
INCORPORATED IN HOLLAND

NOTICE

WISEMAN, LTD.

TEA DANCES

FRIDAY, March 28th

and

DINNER DANCE

on

THURSDAY, March 27th.

THE HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.

Honorary Secretaries and Treasurers.

HONGKONG, 15th January, 1919.

EXCHANGE.

SELLING.

T/T Demand	3/13 1/2
30 d/s	3/12 1/2
60 d/s	3/12 1/2
4 m/s	3/12 1/2
T/T Shanghai	Nom.
T/T Singapore	135
T/T Japan	147 1/2
T/T India	Nom.
Demand India	Nom.
T/T San Francisco	74 1/2
T/T New York	132
T/T Marks	N. m.
T/T France	432
Demand Paris	432 1/2

BUYING.

4 m/s L/C	3/12 1/2
4 m/s D/P	3/12 1/2
6 m/s L/C	3/12 1/2
60 d/s Sydney and Melbourne	3/12 1/2
30 d/s San Francisco	76
4 m/s Marks	Nom.
4 m/s France	434 1/2
6 m/s France	434 1/2
Demand Germany	74 1/2
Demand New York	Nom.
T/T Bombay	Nom.
Demand Bombay	Nom.
T/T Calcutta	Nom.
Demand Calcutta	152 1/2
Demand Manila	135
On Haiphong	Nom.
On Saigon	Nom.
On Bangkok	49 1/2
Sovereign	62 1/2
Gold leaf per oz	44 40
Bar Silver, per oz	47 3/4

SUBSIDIARY COINS

DISCOUNT PER \$100:	
H'kong 50 cts sub.	\$1.50% dis.
" 10 "	\$1.2% dis.
" 5 "	\$1% dis.
Canton "	\$1% dis.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

MANCHESTER GOODS.

Messrs. James F. Hutton and Co. write in their weekly report (dated January 29) - "The subject of Japanese competition with Lancashire-made piece goods has been much to the fore of late, and certainly the Japanese have been putting a considerably cheaper article on the market than the Lancashire makers could do. It is generally admitted that the Japanese cloths are not so reliable, and this is one point in favour of the Lancashire cloths. As regards price, it must not be forgotten that the Japanese makers have had every advantage during the war. So far as Japanese competition is concerned, our Government should certainly see that the English mills should at least be given fair play. The fact of Japanese competition is being grossly exaggerated, for there are only about 30,000 looms in Japan, as compared with 807,500 in Great Britain, and it is absurd to think that Japan can seriously compete with Lancashire, and when reasonable conditions again return this country will probably be able to hold its own as it has done in the past against the competition of the whole world."

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

FRIDAY, the 28th March, 1919.

commencing at 2.30 p.m. at No. 4, Peak Road

A Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture

Comprising:-

Silk tapestry covered drawing room suite, teak chiffonier, teak hatstand, cherrywood desk and chair, console mirror, marble clock and statue, Brass flower pots and vases, Japanese water colours, engravings, clockings, ornaments, tapestry curtains, pile carpets and rugs, electric fittings etc.

Teak extension dining table and morocco covered chairs, teak sideboard and dinner wagon with bevelled mirrors, teak ice chest brass fenders, dinner and dessert services, electro-plate and glass ware, cutlery etc.

Solid double brass bedstead, teak single and double wardrobes with bevelled mirrors, teak bureau with bevelled mirror, marble top washstands, tapestry and morocco covered rockers, toilet crockery etc. etc.

Also

A few pieces of Canton Blackwood

Comprising:-

Tables, chairs, settee, flower stand, music and curio cabinet, stools and overmantel etc.

And

One Cottage Piano by 'John Brinsford & Co.' (in fine condition).

On view from Thursday, the 27th inst.

Catalogue will be issued.

Terms: Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by public Auction on

THURSDAY, the 27th March 1919.

commencing at 3 p.m.

at Hoi's Wharf, Kowloon.

(for account of the concerned)

40 Kegs Check Head Wire Nails.

(more or less damaged by fresh water ex. s. "Harold Dollar")

Terms: Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

WEDNESDAY, the 9th April, 1919

commencing at 12 o'clock (noon)

at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,

(For account of the concerned)

The Wreck of the S. S. Ylamsamud

(3 1/2 tons nett register)

As she now lies on Alligator Island (near Foochow) with all anchors, chains, gear and appurtenances, etc.

Terms: Cash on fall of hammer when the wreck will be at purchasers risk.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

PEAK TRAMWAYS CO. LTD.

TIME TABLE

WEEK DAYS.

12.00 a.m. to 1.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

1.00 a.m. to 2.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

2.00 a.m. to 3.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

3.00 a.m. to 4.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

4.00 a.m. to 5.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

5.00 a.m. to 6.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

6.00 a.m. to 7.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

9.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 15 mins.

NOTICE

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Fiftieth Ordinary Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Offices of the undersigned at noon on Saturday, the 9th instant.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from the 15th to the 29th instant, both days inclusive.

At this Meeting a Resolution will be proposed that, owing to the Consulting Committee being now made up to the maximum number of eight, the remuneration to the Committee be increased from \$7,000 to \$8,000.

JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers, Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1919.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY LIMITED.

THE FORTY-FIRST ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE above Company will be held at the Office of the General Agents, Pedder Street, on THURSDAY, the 17th instant at 11.0 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December 1918.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to 27th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Agents.

Hongkong, 4th March, 1919.

HONGKONG DOG-CAT-POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW 1919.

A show in connection with the above will be held (by kind permission of the Stewards, Hongkong Jockey Club) within their enclosure, Happy Valley, on Saturday, the 12th April, 1919.

Entry forms containing full particulars may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

G. W. GEGG, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

c/o Messrs. Fuchs & Ho. gh.

G. W. GEGG.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

THURSDAY, the 27th March, 1919.

commencing at 11 a.m.

at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.

An Assortment of English Paints and Varnishes

comprising:-

Ferrous Grey, Red, Super Enamel, Green, Moist Colour, Purple-Brown, Moist Colour, Super Chocolate, Sanitary Paints, Black Japan, Hard Drying Carriage Varnish etc.

Also

A Quantity of Aquatints, Washes, Distemper (in various colours) and

One Lot of "Robb's" Enamel in various tints.

On view from Wednesday the 26th inst.

Terms: Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

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One Lot of "Robb's" Enamel in various tints.

On view from Wednesday the 26th inst.

Terms: Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

MONDAY 31st March, 1919.

commencing at 2.30 p.m. at his residence "La Hacienda" No. 73, Tas Peak.

The Whole of his Valuable Household Furniture.

comprising:-

Chesterfield couch, Tapestry covered easy corner, Teak writing desk and bookcase, Teak curio cabinet, copper fender and coal scuttle, Electric standard and table lamps, Pile carpets and Rugs, Lace, Tapestry and case-mat curtains etc. etc.

Teak dining table and chairs, Teak sideboard and dinner wagon, Sectional bookcase, Oak smoking cabinet, Teak ice chest, Sorensen, Dinner and breakfast services, Cutlery and Glass ware etc. etc.

Brass and teak twin bedsteads, Teak toilet table with bevelled mirrors, Marble top washstands, Teak wardrobe and chest of drawers, Oak Bedroom suite, Tin lined box couch, Toilet crockery etc. etc.

Also

One Tonn's centre net and boundary net (nearly new)

One Lawn Mower

A Large quantity of Plants in pots

And

One Cottage Piano by "Collard & Collard" (in fine condition)

One Japanese safe

On view from Saturday, the 29th inst.

Catalogues will be issued.

Terms: Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

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GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

WEDNESDAY, the 2nd April 1919.

commencing at 2.30 p.m.

at No. 2 Minden Villas, Kowloon

A Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture

comprising:-

Mahogany drawing room suite, mahogany couch, easy chairs, desk & bookcase, cherrywood table, blackwood tapestry, console mirror, marble clock curio, color prints engravings, picture, curtains, carpets etc. etc.

Teak extension dining table & chair, teak sideboard & dinner wagon, teak silver cabinet, American refrigerator, silver, community & electro-plate ware, cutlery, dinner & dessert services, glassware etc. etc.

American made mahogany w. bedsteads, double teak & iron bedsteads, American made mahogany dresser, single & double mahogany & teak wardrobes with bevelled mirrors, chiffonier with bevelled mirror, teak dressing table & marble top washstands etc. etc.

Also

Pantry and Kitchen Requisites.

And

1 Victrola with cabinet & records.

On view from Tuesday, the 1st April.

Catalogue will be issued.

Terms: Cash on delivery.

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GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

BANKS.

THE BANK OF CHINA.

GOVERNMENT BANK.

(Specially authorised by Presidential Mandate of 22nd November, 1917.)

Authorized Capital \$30,000,000.00

Paid-up Capital \$18,975,000.00

Reserve Funds \$3,197,000.00

HEAD OFFICE, PEKING.

BRANCHES & SUB-BRANCHES:

(Peking): Haining, Tientsin, (North): Miyun, Chobien, Pabien, Nianhsan, Hanhsan, (Chihli): Tientsin, Paochu, Lufei, Tientsin, Sangiang, Shuntai, Tangshan, Taming, Chohhsien Weinsien, (Manchuria): Changchun, Mouhsien, Kirin, Taitshih, Nowsang, Liaoyuan, Heho, Haimingfu, Taonanfu, Harbin, Dabai, Antang, Tiching, Chinghsien, Sifeng, Hulan, Suifu, Hailanfu, Ningtu, Kungchuling, Liangyang, Fuyu, Yenchow, Kaipingien (Hubei): Yangchow, Shai, Ichang, (Hunan): Changsha, (Kiangsu): Shanghai, Nanking, Soochow, Yangchow, Chinkiang, Wush, Hsuehfu, (Shantung): Tsinan, Taingao, Chefoo, Yenchien, Lintshien, (Shansi): Taiyuanfu, Yungsheng, Sinkianhsien, Taitung, (Hanan): Kaifeng, Choukiakow, Hsinhsien, (Kwangtung): Hongkong, Canton, Swatow, Kiangchow, Fokien): Foochow, Amoy, Hongkong, Chuanchow, Changchow, Sanchiao, (Chekiang): Hangchow, Shaoxing, Huchow, Kaohing, Wenchow, Ningpo, Lanchi, Yuyao, Haimen, (Kiangsu): Nanchang, Kiukiang, Kanchow, Ch

